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THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PREPARED BY

The late Lieut. Col. ROBERT N. SCOTT, Third U. S. Artillery.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR, Secretary of War,

BY

MAJ. GEORGE B. DAVIS, U. S. A.,  
MR. LESLIE J. PERRY,  
MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,  
*Board of Publication.*

SERIES I—VOLUME XXXV—IN TWO PARTS.

PART I—Reports, Correspondence, etc.

WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1891.

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THE  
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ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

TO

SERIES I—VOLUME XXXV.

(To be inserted in the volume. For explanation see General  
Index volume, Serial No. 130, page XXVIII.)

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PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of War,

BY

BRIG. GEN. FRED C. AINSWORTH,

CHIEF OF THE RECORD AND PENSION OFFICE, WAR DEPARTMENT,

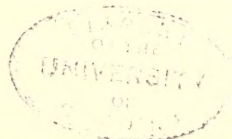
AND

MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY.

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MR. JOHN S. MOODEY, Indexer.

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WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1902.



## TEXT.

## PART 1.

- Page 1. Second foot-note, erase the words *All such are designated in the Index*.  
 Page 403. Erase foot-note and insert *Omitted*.  
 Page 520. Seventeenth line, bottom, for *in Virginia* read *to Virginia*.  
 Page 654. For *Wright's (G. J.)* read *Wright's (Henry G.)*.  
 Pages 655-720. Erase foot-note *No circumstantial reports on file*, wherever it occurs.

## PART 2.

- Page 148. No. 21, roll of prisoners of war, etc., erase \* after *Brewer, James F.*, and for *McDonald's brigade* read *McDonald's battalion*; also erase \* foot-note.  
 Page 171. Hawley to Smith, date line, for *1864* read *1863*; fourth line, for *Mon-tones* read *Matanzas*; ninth line, for *armed* read *armed*.  
 NOTE.—This letter should have been printed in Series I, Vol. 28, Part 2, p. 16, after Seymour to Gillmore.  
 Page 425. Otey to Guerin, fourth line, for *Twenty-ninth South Carolina* read *Twenty-second South Carolina*.  
 Page 591. Phillips to Bacon, following signature, for *Twenty-second Georgia* read *Thirty-second Georgia*.

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## P R E F A C E .

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By an act approved June 23, 1874, Congress made an appropriation "to enable the Secretary of War to begin the publication of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, both of the Union and Confederate Armies," and directed him "to have copied for the Public Printer all reports, letters, telegrams, and general orders not heretofore copied or printed, and properly arranged in chronological order."

Appropriations for continuing such preparation have been made from time to time, and the act approved June 16, 1880, has provided "for the printing and binding, under direction of the Secretary of War, of 10,000 copies of a compilation of the Official Records (Union and Confederate) of the War of the Rebellion, so far as the same may be ready for publication, during the fiscal year"; and that "of said number 7,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 2,000 copies for the use of the Senate, and 1,000 copies for the use of the Executive Departments."\*

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\* Volumes I to V distributed under act approved June 16, 1880. The act approved August 7, 1882, provides that—

"The volumes of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion shall be distributed as follows: One thousand copies to the Executive Departments, as now provided by law. One thousand copies for distribution by the Secretary of War among officers of the Army and contributors to the work. Eight thousand three hundred copies shall be sent by the Secretary of War to such libraries, organizations, and individuals as may be designated by the Senators, Representatives, and Delegates of the Forty-seventh Congress. Each Senator shall designate not exceeding twenty-six, and each Representative and Delegate not exceeding twenty-one of such addresses, and the volumes shall be sent thereto from time to time as they are published, until the publication is completed. Senators, Representatives, and Delegates shall inform the Secretary of War in each case how many volumes of those heretofore published they have forwarded to such addresses. The remaining copies of the eleven thousand to be published, and all sets that may not be ordered to be distributed as provided herein, shall be sold by the Secretary of War for cost of publication with ten per cent. added thereto, and the proceeds of such sale shall be covered into the Treasury. If two or more sets of said volumes are ordered to the same address the Secretary of War shall inform the Senators, Representatives, or Delegates, who have designated the same, who thereupon may designate other libraries, organizations, or individuals. The Secretary of War shall report to the first session of the Forty-eighth Congress what volumes of the series heretofore published have not been furnished to such libraries, organizations, and individuals. He shall also inform distributees at whose instance the volumes are sent."

This compilation will be the first general publication of the military records of the war, and will embrace all official documents that can be obtained by the compiler, and that appear to be of any historical value.

The publication will present the records in the following order of arrangement:

The **1st Series** will embrace the formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States, and of all military operations in the field, with the correspondence, orders, and returns relating specially thereto, and, as proposed, is to be accompanied by an Atlas.

In this series the reports will be arranged according to the campaigns and several theaters of operations (in the chronological order of the events), and the Union reports of any event will, as a rule, be immediately followed by the Confederate accounts. The correspondence, &c., not embraced in the "reports" proper will follow (first Union and next Confederate) in chronological order.

The **2d Series** will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns, Union and Confederate, relating to prisoners of war, and (so far as the military authorities were concerned) to State or political prisoners.

The **3d Series** will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Union authorities (embracing their correspondence with the Confederate officials) not relating specially to the subjects of the *first* and *second* series. It will set forth the annual and special reports of the Secretary of War, of the General-in-Chief, and of the chiefs of the several staff corps and departments; the calls for troops, and the correspondence between the national and the several State authorities.

The **4th Series** will exhibit the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Confederate authorities, similar to that indicated for the Union officials, as of the *third* series, but excluding the correspondence between the Union and Confederate authorities given in that series.

ROBERT N. SCOTT,

*Major Third Art., and Bvt. Lieut. Col.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, August 23, 1880.

Approved:

ALEX. RAMSEY,

*Secretary of War.*

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OPERATIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND FLORIDA,  
AND ON THE GEORGIA COAST.

January 1–November 13, 1864.

PART I.\*

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.†

- Jan. 1–Nov. 13, 1864.—Operations in Charleston Harbor and vicinity, S. C.  
7, 1864.—Affair on Waccamaw Neck, S. C.  
25, 1864.—Affair at Bayou Grand, Fla.
- Feb. 5–22, 1864.—The Florida Expedition.  
9, 1864.—Skirmish near Point Washington, Fla.  
9–10, 1864.—Expedition from Fernandina up Nassau River, Fla.  
10, 1864.—Capture of Camp Cooper, Fla.  
13–14, 1864.—Skirmishes at Pease Creek, Fla.  
15–23, 1864.—Expedition from Fernandina to Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, Fla.  
20, 1864.—Skirmish at Pease Creek, Fla.  
22, 1864.—Skirmish at Whitmarsh Island, Ga.
- Mar. 1, 1864.—Skirmishes at Cedar and McGirt's Creeks, Fla.  
4–May 14, 1864.—Operations in Florida.  
13, 1864.—Capture of C. S. steamer Sunter in Lake George, Fla.  
16, 1864.—Skirmish near Palatka, Fla.  
25, 1864.—Affair at McClellansville, S. C.  
31, 1864.—Skirmish at Palatka, Fla.  
Affair at Spring Island, S. C.

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\* Embraces the Union and Confederate reports from January 1 to November 13, 1864, and the Union and Confederate Correspondence, &c., from January 1 to February 29, 1864.

† Of some of the minor conflicts noted in this Summary no circumstantial reports are on file. All such are designated in the Index.



- Apr. 1, 1864.—Destruction of U. S. transport *Maple Leaf* in Saint John's River, Fla.  
 Expedition from Palatka to Fort Gates, Fla.  
 2, 1864.—Skirmish on Cedar Creek, Fla.  
 Skirmish at Cow Ford Creek near Pensacola, Fla.  
 4, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, ordered to proceed with all available force to Fort Monroe, Va.  
 16, 1864.—Destruction of U. S. transport *Hunter* in Saint John's River, Fla.  
 20, 1864.—General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, superseded by Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, in command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
 26–May 6, 1864.—Expedition from Jacksonville to Lake Monroe, Fla.
- May 1, 1864.—Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of the South.  
 6, 1864.—Affair at Tampa, Fla.  
 9, 1864.—Destruction of U. S. transport *Harriet A. Weed* in Saint John's River, Fla.  
 11, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Daufuskie Island, S. C.  
 16, 1864.—Skirmish on the Ashepoo River, S. C.  
 19–27, 1864.—Operations on the Saint John's River, Fla., including affairs (19th) at Welaka and Saunders and capture (23d) of U. S. steamer *Columbine*.  
 25, 1864.—Affair at Jackson's Bridge, near Pensacola, Fla.  
 Skirmish near Camp Finegan, Fla.  
 26, 1864.—Maj. Gen. John G. Foster, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of the South.  
 Destruction of U. S. transport *Boston* at Chapman's Fort, Ashepoo River, S. C.  
 28, 1864.—Skirmish near Jacksonville, Fla.  
 31–June 3, 1864.—Expedition from Jacksonville and capture (June 2) of Camp Milton, Fla.
- June 3, 1864.—Capture of U. S. gun-boat *Water Witch* in Ossabaw Sound, Ga.  
 25, 1864.—Operations on Yellow River, Fla.
- July 1–31, 1864.—Operations on the west coast of Florida.  
 3, 1864.—Skirmish near White Point, S. C.  
 15–20, 1864.—Expedition from Jacksonville and skirmish (15th) at Trout Creek, Fla.  
 21–25, 1864.—Expedition from Barrancas, Fla., toward Pollard, Ala., and skirmishes (22d) at Camp Gonzales, Fla., and (23d) near Pollard, Ala.  
 23–28, 1864.—Union raid from Jacksonville on Baldwin, Fla., and skirmishes.  
 24, 1864.—Skirmish at Whitesville, Fla.  
 27, 1864.—Skirmish at Whiteside, Black Creek, Fla.
- Aug. 2–4, 1864.—Naval expedition to McIntosh County, Ga.  
 7, 1864.—Affair at Bayou Grand, Fla.  
 10, 12, 1864.—Skirmishes at Baldwin, Fla.  
 13, 1864.—Skirmish at Palatka, Fla.  
 13–14, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Barrancas, Fla.  
 15–19, 1864.—Union raid on the Florida Railroad, including action (17th) at Gainesville, Fla.  
 17, 1864.—Skirmish at South Newport, Ga.

- Aug. 29, 1864.—Skirmish at Milton, Fla.  
 Sept. 18-Oct. 4, 1864.—Expedition from Barrancas to Marianna, Fla., including affair (September 23) at Euchee Anna Court-House and action (September 27) at Marianna.  
 24, 1864.—Skirmish at Magnolia, Fla.  
 Oct. 5, 1864.—Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
 18, 1864.—Skirmish near Milton, Fla.  
 21, 1864.—Skirmish at Bryant's Plantation, Fla.  
 24, 1864.—Skirmish near Magnolia, Fla.  
 25-28, 1864.—Expedition up Blackwater Bay and skirmish (26th) at Milton, Fla.

### JANUARY 1-NOVEMBER 13, 1864.—Operations in Charleston Harbor and Vicinity, S. C.

#### SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

- Feb. 2, 1864.—Destruction of blockade-runner Presto.  
 6-14, 1864.—Expedition to John's and James Islands and skirmishes (9th-11th) near Bugbee Bridge.  
 17, 1864.—Destruction of U. S. steamer Housatonic.  
 Apr. 8, 1864.—Demonstration on James Island.  
 15, 1864.—Demonstration on Battery Island.  
 May 10, 1864.—Skirmish on Pine Island.  
 13, 1864.—Affair on James Island.  
 21-23, 1864.—Demonstration on James Island.  
 July 2, 1864.—Skirmish on James Island.  
       Skirmish near Secessionville.  
       3, 1864.—Assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.  
       Skirmish at King's Creek.  
       Skirmish on John's Island.  
 4- 9, 1864.—Attack on Battery Pringle.  
       7, 1864.—Skirmish on John's Island.  
       9, 1864.—Action at Burden's Causeway, John's Island.  
       10, 1864.—Attack on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.  
       16, 1864.—Skirmish on James Island.  
 Aug. 20, 1864.—Burning of Legareville.  
 Oct. 23, 1864.—Destruction of blockade-runner Flamingo.

#### REPORTS, ETC.\*

- No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South, of operations May 1-23.  
 No. 2.—Maj. Gen. John G. Foster, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South, of operations May 26-November 6.  
 No. 3.—Itinerary of military operations January 1-November 13.  
 No. 4.—Maj. John C. Gray, jr., Judge-Advocate, Department of the South, of investigation relative to assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.

\*The reports of Hatch, Foster, Clum, Beauregard, and Jones (Nos. 1, 2, 5, 28, and 29) and the Itinerary (No. 3) also include general operations in the respective departments. For naval reports of co-operative movements, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

- No. 5.—Capt. Henry R. Clum, Chief Signal Officer, of operations February 5–March 31 and May 1–July 31.
- No. 6.—Lieut. George A. Fisher, Signal Officer, of operations July 1–11.
- No. 7.—Brig. Gen. Alexander Schimmelfennig, U. S. Army, commanding Northern District, of operations April 28–September 2.
- No. 8.—Maj. Joseph Morrison, One hundred and third New York Infantry, of demonstration on James Island (May 22) and skirmish on James Island (July 2).
- No. 9.—Brig. Gen. Rufus Saxton, U. S. Army, commanding Northern District, of operations in September.
- No. 10.—Brig. Gen. Edward E. Potter, U. S. Army, commanding Northern District, of operations October 27–November 7.
- No. 11.—Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding U. S. Forces, Hilton Head, &c., of operations July 2–11.
- No. 12.—Col. Henry M. Hoyt, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 13.—Maj. Thomas B. Jayne, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 14.—Capt. Robert W. Bannatyne, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 15.—Lieut. Philo M. Burr, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 16.—Capt. Walter S. Chatham, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 17.—Lieut. William V. Hollingsworth, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 18.—Capt. Hannibal D. Weed, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 19.—Capt. Nathaniel Pierson, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 20.—Capt. Harry H. Jenks, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 21.—Lieut. David Moses, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 22.—Capt. John B. Fish, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 23.—Lieut. Norman P. Farr, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 24.—Maj. Edward H. Little, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 25.—Col. William W. H. Davis, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding brigade, of destruction of blockade-runner *Presto*, and operations July 1–6.
- No. 26.—Col. Philip P. Brown, jr., One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Infantry, of expedition to John's Island and skirmishes.
- No. 27.—Lieut. Col. William Ames, Third Rhode Island Artillery, Chief of Artillery, Department of the South, of destruction of blockade-runner *Flamingo*.
- No. 28.—General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, of operations January 14–April 19.
- No. 29.—Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, of operations April 20–September 1.
- No. 30.—Extracts from Journal of Operations in Charleston Harbor, January 1–21.
- No. 31.—Brig. Gen. Roswell S. Ripley, C. S. Army, commanding First Military District, of operations May 13–16.

- No. 32.—Brig. Gen. Beverly H. Robertson, C. S. Army, commanding Second and Sixth Military Districts, of operations July 7-10.
- No. 33.—Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army, commanding Sixth Military District, of operations February 8-12.
- No. 34.—Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro, C. S. Army, commanding Seventh Military District, of operations April 8-October 15.
- No. 35.—Extracts from Journal of Operations in the Seventh Military District, March 31-April 29.
- No. 36.—Lieut. Col. Stephen Elliott, jr., and Capts. Francis T. Miles, James M. Carson, Thomas J. China, S. H. Wilds, John C. Mitchel, Charles W. Parker, C. A. Willis, Thomas A. Huguenin, and Stephen D. Mobley, commanding Fort Sumter, of operations January 1-September 26.
- No. 37.—Capt. John Johnson, C. S. Engineers, of operations July 19-26.
- No. 38.—Col. Alfred Rhett, First South Carolina Artillery, commanding Fifth Military District, &c., of operations June 2-September 20.
- No. 39.—Col. George P. Harrison, jr., Thirty-second Georgia Infantry, commanding brigade, of action at Burden's Causeway, John's Island.
- No. 40.—Col. John L. Black, First South Carolina Cavalry, of attack on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins and operations September 10-18.
- No. 41.—Col. Charles H. Simonton, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Infantry, of operations April 8 and 15 and May 13.
- No. 42.—Lieut. Col. Joseph A. Yates, First South Carolina Artillery, of assault and attack on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.
- No. 43.—Lieut. Col. J. Welsman Brown, Second South Carolina Artillery, of skirmish on Pine Island.
- No. 44.—Lieut. Col. O. M. Dantzler, Twenty-first South Carolina Infantry, of destruction of U. S. steamer Housatonic.
- No. 45.—Lieut. Col. John G. Pressley, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Infantry, of operations April 15.
- No. 46.—Maj. R. A. Wayne, First Georgia Regulars, of skirmish on John's Island.
- No. 47.—Maj. William S. Basinger, Eighteenth Battalion Georgia Infantry, of operations May 13-16.
- No. 48.—Maj. John Jenkins, Third South Carolina Cavalry, of operations July 3-10 and the burning of Legareville.
- No. 49.—Lieut. Col. Del. Kemper, C. S. Artillery, of operations July 7-9.
- No. 50.—Capt. Thomas A. Huguenin, First South Carolina Infantry (Regulars), of operations May 13-16.

## No. 1.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South, of operations May 1-23.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
Hilton Head, S. C., May 14, 1864.

COLONEL: Since I came in command of the department there has been little of interest to report. Two rams, building in Charleston, have been launched and are now receiving their plating. The enemy have been for some time repairing Fort Sumter, and deserters report that a few hours' work in clearing away the debris will expose a powerful battery on the sea front. The lower casemates on that front have never been injured. It is also reported that a mortar battery is being established in the work. A bombardment from the mortar batteries on the north end of Morris Island has been kept up



since this last information was received. A few shells are daily thrown into the city of Charleston, not with the expectation of doing serious injury, but with the hope of annoying them and delaying the movements of the railroad trains. In Florida a successful expedition by General Birney has been made on the east side of the Saint John's River as far south as Lake Harney. The enemy were not found in that section of the country. A large number of cattle (reported 3,000) were driven toward Jacksonville to prevent their being carried away by drivers of the rebel army. Some cotton (amount not known) and two small schooners were taken at or near Smyrna. General Birney left several small detachments scattered through the country he had traversed. General Gordon, now in command, writes that he will draw them in immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., May 22, 1864.*

COLONEL: Since my last report there has been no material change in the condition of the department. To procure information, a picket-post of 5 men was captured very handsomely by a detachment from the One hundred and third New York Volunteers, who landed on James Island. The force of the enemy at Charleston and its vicinity is reported to be six regiments of infantry, six light batteries, four guns each, 3,000 heavy artillery, and 400 men with siege train. A fire at intervals has been maintained against Fort Sumter from our mortar batteries. A few shells are each day thrown into Charleston.

On the 13th and 14th instant, a heavy fire was maintained from our mortars, columbiads, and rifled guns upon Sumter. On the 13th, 240 and on the 14th 308 shells were thrown. On each of these days two monitors took part in the bombardment, two casemates were opened, a large portion of the new parapets thrown in the water, and a part of the Moultrie face thrown down. Since then a steady but not heavy fire from the mortar batteries has been maintained. On the 13th, the enemy's fire was principally directed at the monitors. On the 14th, the enemy opened all his batteries on James and Sullivan's Islands, except Fort Johnson, on Battery Chatfield, and Fort Putnam. Four hundred and fifty shells were thrown, damaging the traverses and parapets. No casualties occurred.

Charleston papers of the 19th state that on the 16th Johnston's army had fallen back from Resaca to Adairsville, where fighting was then going on. The Governor of Georgia had called out the militia and civil officers to assemble at Atlanta.

Rebel officers met by flag of truce to-day at Port Royal Ferry acknowledged the Confederacy as nearly gone.

I intend to make an attempt to cut the Charleston and Savannah Railroad on Monday or Tuesday night, and have every reason to believe I will meet with success.

General Gordon writes me from Florida that the Union sentiment is undoubtedly increasing in that State. The small parties left scat-



tered through the country by General Birney had all been brought in without loss. One hundred and fifty bales of cotton captured by General Birney had been brought in. There will be some trouble about the cattle reported by him as captured. A large portion of them are claimed as the property of loyal citizens. Justice will be done both the Government and the citizen. An examination of brands and other marks is being made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., May 23, 1864.*

COLONEL: A report from General Schimmelfennig, commanding Northern District of this department, arrives just as the steamer is about sailing. He considers the bombardment of Sumter as having rendered completely useless the guns lately put in position in that fort. He also believes that the force of the enemy has been considerably reduced within two days, although the force left under my command was reduced to a purely defensive force. I shall endeavor to take advantage of the present opportunity should I find that the enemy are sufficiently weakened to enable me to do so with a reasonable prospect of success.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. John G. Foster, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South, of operations May 26–November 6.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., May 26, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report my arrival and the assumption of command to-day. An expedition has been sent out by General Hatch, consisting of about 2,000 men, under Brig. Gen. W. Birney, having for object the destruction of the railroad bridges over the South Edisto and Ashepoo Rivers, and the long trestle-work over the swamp lying between those two rivers. This expedition was expected to land near the mouth of Mosquito Creek, on the Ashepoo River, last night, and to march to the railroad and perform its work to-day. I propose to visit the whole department on a tour of inspection, and to make a report to you afterward of its condition and wants.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., May 28, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the expedition under Brig. Gen. W. Birney, which had been sent out by General Hatch before my arrival to destroy some bridges on the line of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, as described in my letter of the 26th instant, has returned unsuccessful.

It appears from verbal reports, which are all I have yet received, that two of the transports, the steamers Edwin Lewis and the Boston, under the conduct of Col. Thomas Bayley, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, did not stop at the point designated for disembarkation, but, by mistake, continued on up the Ashepoo River until the steamer Boston ran fast aground within good range of a rebel battery. This battery obtained a direct and raking fire and soon disabled the vessel. The troops on board were saved by swimming and by the boats of the Edwin Lewis, with the loss of their arms. The steamer was then burnt. Our loss is 13 killed, drowned, or missing. Seventy-five cavalry horses and 8 team horses that were on the Boston were burnt with the vessel. The expedition then returned to this point, arriving this morning and during the night. I have ordered a court of inquiry to investigate this matter, and to fix the responsibility for the losses.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., June 6, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that nothing of marked interest has transpired in this department since my letter of the 28th ultimo.

I have visited Morris and Folly Islands, and also the District of Florida. In the former I found the condition of affairs to be satisfactory. General Schimmelfennig has succeeded, with his boat infantry, in driving the enemy's boats out of the creeks between Morris and Folly Islands and James Island, and also in keeping close watch on the enemy's operations on James Island and in Fort Sumter.

A line of batteries and rifle-pits now extends from Fort Johnson to Secessionville and thence across to the Stono River. This line is very strong, but there are chances in favor of a surprise, by means of boats and light-draught steamers. These chances are, however, very small, with ordinary vigilance on the part of the enemy. The enemy still hold Fort Sumter, which they are constantly working to strengthen against an assault. I have not yet obtained full information on this point, but hope to be able to report it next week. There are, as in case of the batteries on James Island, some chances of succeeding in an attempt to assault Fort Sumter by means of small boats and steamers. I will communicate the details as soon as I obtain the necessary information. I directed the fire on the

city and Fort Sumter to be increased a little. Our troops upon these islands are well posted for security, and are, generally, quite healthy.

In the District of Florida I found it necessary to make some changes with the view of concentration and mutual support. Before my arrival General Gordon had performed a handsome feat in turning, by a rapid night march, the enemy's camps called Camp Milton and Camp Finegan, situated, respectively, 10 and 6 miles from Jacksonville. The enemy, finding a force in front and rear, took to their heels and escaped. The camps were completely destroyed. The enemy fell back on Baldwin, which is strongly fortified. Camp Milton was also a strongly fortified position against a front attack. The line of well-constructed bastions, rifle-pits, and block-houses extended nearly 2 miles.

Brigadier-General Birney is now in command of this district in obedience to your orders. I would have preferred General Hatch as commander there, for several reasons, but did not, nevertheless, fail to carry out your order at once. I have ordered a regiment to be organized in Florida from the loyal whites and all men able to bear arms in this district, as well as all the others, to be enrolled, officered, and drilled as militia, to be called into service, in case of an emergency, like that of an offensive movement, in which case they are to be used to garrison the posts from which the veteran troops are taken. I have ordered a school of instruction for those colored regiments that required drill and discipline to be established at Hilton Head, where they will receive constant instruction in regimental and brigade drill and in the firings. Brigadier-General Potter is to be in immediate command, under the general supervision of General Hatch, commanding the district.

Steps have been taken to preserve the healthfulness of the commands in the various districts of the department. Fresh vegetables and fruits are to be brought each week from Florida to the troops on Morris and Folly Islands, and an ice-house is being constructed for their further benefit. The exposure and labor to which these troops are constantly subjected fully entitles them to these attentions to their comfort.

The court of inquiry in the case of General Birney's expedition and the loss of the steamer Boston has concluded its labors, and attach the blame to Colonel Bayley, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops. The evidence shows that General Birney did not take two necessary precautions, viz, to send the pilot that was to take the Lewis and the Boston up under the guard of an officer or soldier to prevent his failure to perform his duty; second, to post a boat opposite the point of disembarkation to prevent the steamers passing it in the darkness.

I have ordered a court-martial to try Colonel Bayley. This expedition was planned by General Hatch, and, with every chance in its favor, should have succeeded.

On the 22d and 23d of May a strong demonstration was made on the enemy's line on James Island. They were found to be too formidable to risk an attack in front.

I shall continue to make full reports by each steamer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff*



## A D D E N D A.

GENERAL ORDERS, ) HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
 No. 123. ) *Hilton Head, S. C., August 23, 1864.*

I. Proceedings of a general court-martial, which convened at Hilton Head, S. C., pursuant to Special Order, No. 243, from headquarters Department of the South, dated Hilton Head, S. C., June 16, 1864, and of which Col. P. P. Brown, jr., One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, is president, was arraigned and tried

Col. Thomas Bayley, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops.

CHARGE: Neglect of duty, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

*Specification 1st.*—In this, that the said Thomas Bayley, colonel of the Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, being in command of said regiment and of the transport Edwin Lewis, and under orders to proceed up the Ashepoo River to the mouth of Mosquito Creek, did, to the great danger of his command, utterly neglect and fail to put a competent pilot at the helm, although he knew there was one on board of the Edwin Lewis, or a vessel close by, and subject to his orders, but proceeded up the river with a pilot unacquainted with the channel. This at Ashepoo River, S. C., on the night of the 25th of May, 1864.

*Specification 2d.*—In this, that the said Thomas Bayley, colonel of the Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, being in command of said regiment and of the transport Edwin Lewis, which had been sent him by Brigadier-General Birney, commanding the expedition, to convey the said regiment of troops under command of said Colonel Bayley to the mouth of Mosquito Creek, on the Ashepoo River, did wholly neglect and fail to avail himself of the services of William C. Mandel, a competent pilot, although he was informed at that time by Acting Master C. M. Hancock, of said transport, that Brigadier-General Birney had placed the said competent pilot on board the Edwin Lewis for the purpose of piloting said vessel up the Ashepoo. This at the Ashepoo River, S. C., on the 25th day of May, 1864.

*Specification 3d.*—In this, that the said Thomas Bayley, colonel of the Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, being in command of said regiment and of the transport Edwin Lewis, and under orders to proceed to the landing at the mouth of Mosquito Creek, on the Ashepoo River, did wholly neglect and refuse to inform the acting master and the pilot on said transport what landing they were to stop at, although the said master and the said pilot frequently expressed their desire to know; and did continue so to neglect and refuse until the said transport had gone up the river about 8 miles above the said landing, and past the pickets of the enemy, and under the guns of a rebel battery. This at the Ashepoo River, S. C., on the 25th day of May, 1864.

*Specification 4th.*—In this, that the said Thomas Bayley, colonel of the Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, being in command of his regiment and of the transport Edwin Lewis, in the Ashepoo River, and under orders to stop at the mouth of Mosquito Creek, about 8 miles from Saint Helena Sound, did negligently and carelessly proceed 6 or 8 miles farther up the Ashepoo River, and was there hailed by a rebel sentry, standing near a fire on the bank, with, "What boat is that?" or words to that effect, and that the said

Bayley answered, "The Edwin Lewis;" that instead of turning back, the said Bayley passed with the transport and the troops on board beyond the sentry and about 1 mile farther into the lines of the enemy, although he distinctly heard the alarm given by the rebel sentry; which act of criminal thoughtlessness endangered his whole command, put the enemy on guard against the intended surprise, and contributed greatly to the loss of the steamer Boston. This at the Ashepoo River, S. C., on or about the 25th of May, 1864.

To which charge and specifications the accused pleaded as follows :

To the 1st *Specification*, "Not guilty."

To the 2d *Specification*, "Not guilty."

To the 3d *Specification*, "Not guilty."

To the 4th *Specification*, "Not guilty."

To the CHARGE, "Not guilty."

#### FINDING.

The court, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, Col. Thomas Bayley, as follows :

Of the 1st *Specification*, "Not guilty."

Of the 2d *Specification*, "Not guilty."

Of the 3d *Specification*, "Not guilty."

Of the 4th *Specification*, "Not guilty."

Of the CHARGE, "Not guilty."

And the court do therefore acquit him, the said Col. Thomas Bayley, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops.

II. The proceedings and findings in the foregoing case of Col. Thomas Bayley, Ninth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, having been submitted to the major-general commanding, are hereby approved.

Col. Thomas Bayley, Ninth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, is accordingly released from arrest and restored to duty.

III. The court-martial, of which Col. P. P. Brown, jr., One hundred and fifty-seventy Regiment New York Volunteers, is president, is hereby dissolved.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster :

W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HILTON HEAD, *June 11, 1864.*

GENERAL: This department was so thoroughly cleared out by General Gillmore that I find, in addition to the force being very small, that there is a lack of boats, horses, and material for engineering purposes. I am planning to make the best of everything, and will soon, I hope, be in a condition to operate on the offensive with some effect. As many of the regiments, especially the new colored ones, are sadly deficient in drill, I have ordered them collected into a camp of instruction at this place. I will soon make something of them.

We made a strong demonstration on James Island a week ago, but found the works too strong to attempt in front. There are small chances of succeeding in an attempt on James Island, except by a surprise. But if I only had men enough to make the venture, I am sure that I could succeed by landing on the mainland in the rear of



Mount Pleasant, entering in light-draught steamers by one of the three inlets south of Bull's Bay. This will take Sullivan's Island in reverse, and also command the city. I am ready to attempt this at any time that you may think best. I shall want four or five of such light-draught steamers as those built by Mr. Wiard and sent to Fort Monroe; two more are ready to launch in New York. As far as I know thus far, this operation promises greatly in favor of success. To make it sure would, of course, require a considerable increase of my force. But I am ready to undertake it now if the emergency of military affairs in Virginia requires a powerful demonstration here. I think I may be able to effect a partial surprise, and then, if the navy co-operates strongly, we will have the garrison of Sullivan's Island at our mercy. I am thus particular in stating all these points, because I understand you to direct me to act upon the defensive strictly, and therefore do not feel at liberty to take a step of the above character until I have received authority to that effect. General Gordon's movements in Florida, resulting in the destruction of Camps Finegan and Milton, were well executed. He effected a perfect surprise.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully and truly, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., June 15, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that nothing of special interest has transpired in this department since the date of my last report, the 6th instant. The fire upon the city of Charleston has been somewhat increased, and has been continued night and day, at irregular intervals, the number of shots varying from 30 to 60 in ordinary firing. Quite a brisk cannonading was maintained between our batteries and those of the enemy from daylight on the 7th June until noon of the same day. The cause of it was the fire of Fort Putnam (Gregg), which opened upon a small steamer discovered to be aground at daylight on the point of shoal lying between Fort Sumter and Fort Johnson. This was a small steamer used to ply about the harbor and carry supplies to the different forts, and had evidently run aground the night before in returning from Sumter. As soon as Fort Putnam opened upon the rebel steamer the enemy's batteries opened upon Putnam, to which fire our other batteries, including Fort Strong (Wagner), replied. The result was that the rebel steamer was knocked to pieces, upon seeing which the rebel batteries ceased firing and our batteries did likewise.

Four deserters from the Second South Carolina Artillery deserted from Sullivan's Island last week and came within our lines. Eighteen deserters from Savannah came to Fort Pulaski on the 12th. From the information given by these men it appears that the enemy's force at Charleston is 5,000 and at Savannah 2,000, making 7,000 in all, besides the militia.

I am commencing the instruction of the colored regiments in tactics at Beaufort. They are deficient in drill as well as in the firing.

It will take two months' hard drilling before some of them are fit to be placed in action. I shall collect a brigade of white regiments at this place to be drilled and made ready for any emergency.

The reports from Florida indicate the withdrawal of nearly all the Confederate troops except one or two regiments of Georgia cavalry. The Florida militia is the principal force in the field opposed to us in that district.

This department has been nearly depleted of its transportation, and does not possess sufficient to make the ordinary transfers of troops and supplies without considerable delays. It will be very difficult and almost impossible to make an effective military movement until this want is supplied, at least in part. Nearly all the boats, pontoons, &c., were taken away with the Tenth Corps, together with nearly all the lumber, nearly 200,000 feet. I am, however, trying to build new pontoons. We very much need some light-draught steamers for operations in the inland waters, similar to those built by Mr. Wiard, of New York, and delivered at Fort Monroe. I have written a letter upon this subject, dated June 11, respectfully calling your attention to it and explaining the necessities of the case.

The health of the department is thus far good, and I am convinced, if our precautions and plans are fully carried out, that we shall have very little sickness during the summer.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER.

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., June 22, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired since the date of my last report. On the 16th instant, the enemy fired a general *feu de joie* from all their batteries, some firing shot and shell and others blank cartridges. About 500 shots were fired in all in Charleston Harbor on that day. I am at a loss to account for this demonstration, except it be as a commemoration of the confirmation of the rebel Government or the repulse of General Benham at Secessionville. On the 20th, a reconnaissance in force was made by General Schimmelfennig on John's Island and a rebel battery near Legareville destroyed.

A Charleston paper of the 14th gives the names of the U. S. officers, prisoners of war, who arrived in that city on the 12th, and were to be quartered in the part of the city "most exposed to the enemy's (our) fire." I inclose this list in another letter.\* I am awaiting an answer to my letter of the 16th to you upon this subject.†

Our fire upon Charleston averages about 50 shots per day. From information received through the Navy Department the admiral is of the opinion that the rebel naval force, both outside and inside, will attempt some operation on this coast in a short time. The blockading fleet is at this time very weak, both in vessels and men to man them. I am, however, confident that we can hold our own in any emergency that may arise, and also aid the navy if they need

\* See Part II, p. 145.

† See Part II, p. 135.

it. I wish we were prepared to strike a blow at this time, so as to anticipate the rebel plans if they have any. I shall be ready as soon as I can get torpedo catchers rigged to the few army gun-boats we have, and a few pontoon-boats made.

The health of the command is generally good, although the sick-list is on the increase. This must be expected in this climate at this season. I have made arrangements to insure as great attention as possible to the health and comfort of the troops.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,

*Hilton Head, S. C., July 7, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I left here on the evening of the 1st instant with a force of about 5,000 infantry, 100 cavalry, and two sections of artillery, for the purpose of making a demonstration against Charleston and the railroad leading to Savannah. We entered the mouth of the North Edisto River on the morning of the 2d instant, and proceeded immediately to land on Seabrook Island a force under Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, which consisted of three white regiments from his own district, and Brig. Gen. R. Saxton, with three regiments colored troops and one white regiment, and one battery of artillery, and 100 cavalry.

General Hatch's orders were to push forward to the upper part of John's Island, to seize the ferry, cross over, and, if possible, destroy the railroad; at any rate, to destroy the bridge over Rantowles Creek with his artillery. I then sailed up the Edisto to White Point, where I landed Brigadier-General Birney, with 1,200 infantry and two pieces of artillery. His orders were to push forward to the railroad, place torpedoes under the track, to endeavor to destroy the bridge over South Edisto River, and, if fortune favored, to destroy the trestle-work between it and the Ashepoo, and the bridge over the Ashepoo River. General Birney, however, did not move forward with sufficient alacrity, and on the following morning at 7 o'clock had only proceeded about 5 miles into the country, where, at the intersection of the road by a creek, he found a small force of the enemy posted with a few pieces of artillery. I ordered General Birney to cross the creek with a boat (which I furnished him, on wheels, for emergencies like this), while I went up Dawho Creek with two small gun-boats and shelled the battery on the flank. General Birney, however, soon reported his incapability to carry out my order and asked to withdraw, which I was forced to allow him to do. I then ordered him to re-embark and move around to the Stono River and join Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig's force.

Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, on the night of the 1st, advanced with his disposable force (about 2,000 infantry) on James Island and had assaulted and carried one of the enemy's batteries, capturing two 24-pounder howitzers; this battery, however, was directly in front and within grape-shot range of all the batteries in the first line of the enemy's defenses, extending from Secessionville to Fort Pringle. He, however, held it during the following day and



night, until he safely established his command a short distance to the rear, when he retired, securing the captured guns. While this was occurring a portion of General Schimmelfennig's force, under Colonel Gurney, was prepared to assault Fort Johnson in boats. This attack was made in the night of the 2d, with 1,000 men, but unfortunately more than an hour too late to profit by the tide. The consequence was some of the boats got aground, and although Colonel Hoyt, of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, landed with his first division and captured Fort Simkins, he was not supported by Colonel Gurney with his reserve, and was finally forced to surrender with 5 officers and 132 men. Although this operation was a failure, it proved to me that a properly organized expedition of this kind can easily be made successful. One great want is a sufficient number of boats to carry the requisite number of men.

In the mean time General Hatch with his command had marched across John's Island, but owing to the heat of the weather and our men being unaccustomed to long marches, he was unable to reach the ferry in time to prevent the enemy from concentrating and meeting him in some force. I therefore ordered him down on the Stono River in positions from which the first line of rebel defenses can be enfiladed and their bridge across the river near Fort Pringle be destroyed.

Such is the position of affairs at the present time, which I intend to continue and threaten the enemy for a few days longer, before withdrawing the troops. After giving them a few days' rest and preparing for a second raid, I shall make it, and, I hope, with better success than this one. I shall continue to do this as often as opportunities occur, and I can prepare, in obedience to your wishes and those of the General-in-Chief expressed to me in your letter of the 29th ultimo.\* The present demonstration has had an excellent effect, inasmuch as it greatly alarmed the rebels. Their trains have been running night and day bringing in troops from the surrounding country. Having become convinced that the enemy were strengthening themselves in Fort Sumter and making arrangements for defense, I have concluded that it is necessary to more effectually demolish the walls of that fort. For this purpose I have ordered the bombardment to be renewed to-morrow morning and all the guns to be so aimed as to breach the wall in a horizontal line on that part of the wall which is now standing vertical. As soon as a good cut is made through the wall I shall float down against it and explode large torpedoes until the wall is shaken down and the surrounding obstructions are entirely blown away. I shall continue this until the walls are demolished as far as possible. I am convinced that the fort can, after such a bombardment, be assaulted and taken by boats, and that it can be held without any great loss of life. The only reasons in favor of taking it, beyond its occupation by our troops, are that it would afford a shelter or starting point by which boat expeditions can again attack Fort Johnson or Mount Pleasant. It now serves as a watch-tower to the enemy.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER.

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff.*

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\* See Part II, p. 155.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 7, 1864.*

List of casualties which occurred during the 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th days of July, 1864:

On James Island, 3 officers and 52 men wounded, 5 men missing.

On Morris Island, 1 man killed, 6 officers and 132 men missing.

On John's Island, 2 men killed and 1 man wounded.

Died of sunstroke, 3 enlisted men on James Island, and 18 enlisted men were drowned in transit to James Island.

This list contains the most correct reports which have as yet been received.

J. G. FOSTER,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 12, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report, in addition to my report of the 7th instant, that our advance upon John's and James Islands caused the enemy to accumulate troops to oppose our further progress. These took up a position on John's Island, in front of our troops, which occupied the south bank of the Stono to above Fort Pringle.

On Thursday, 7th instant, General Saxton ordered the Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops to attack the enemy in flank, which was executed with so much effect that one of the enemy's field batteries would have been captured had the Twenty-sixth been supported by other troops. During the day the force of the enemy was largely increased by Georgia regiments, which must, I think, have been brought from Atlanta by rail; and on Saturday morning [9th], at 4.30 a. m., they made an attack on our position. General Hatch repulsed them after a sharp fight. At 6 a. m., they made another determined attack, which our troops, being prepared for, likewise repulsed in ten minutes, with great loss to the enemy, who were suffered to come on until within good musketry and canister range. The enemy then fell back under cover of their batteries.

Having ascertained by reconnaissance that the establishment of enfilading batteries on the south side of the Stono would be of little effect against the well-traversed batteries of the enemy on the north side, and that to venture a general assault would be to incur a certain heavy loss, with doubtful results, I decided to re-embark at once, and after giving the men a few days' rest to try the enemy at another point. The demonstration had proved perfectly successful in one respect, viz, impressing the enemy with alarm as to our purposes, and in forcing him to accumulate a large force to meet us. The troops were re-embarked (unmolested) on Saturday night and Sunday morning, and returned to their stations.

Our total loss was 33 killed, 133 wounded, 143 missing, 3 sunstruck, and 18 drowned by the upsetting of a boat. I inclose a copy of General Hatch's report,\* giving details of operations on John's Island.

On Friday fire was opened on Fort Sumter, and by Saturday the wall was successfully cut through in several places. On Sunday the

\*See p. 84.



fire was discontinued, but opened again on Monday morning, and will be continued until the fort is thoroughly demolished. This has never been thoroughly done yet, and as far as I can ascertain the lower line of casemates remain intact. I propose to make a breaching cut along the line of lower embrasures and then shake the wall by explosions of large quantities of powder, floated down against the fort on rafts. I shall take these rafts up to-morrow morning. The jails for the rebel prisoners are now made, and they will also be taken up to-morrow, and put up at night on Cumming's Point.

I am now collecting the four companies of cavalry, all the cavalry that remains in the department, for the purpose of a raid on the railroad. As the weather is too hot for infantry to march any distance, I propose to land the infantry and cavalry together, and push forward the latter to do its work, while the former holds the landing and advances as far as possible to give support.

The general health of the command is good. The late movements have had a decidedly beneficial effect on the troops, both white and black. The latter, especially, improved every day that they were out, and, I am happy to say, toward the last evinced a considerable degree of pluck and good fighting qualities. I am now relieved of apprehension as to this class of troops, and believe, with active service and drill, they can be made thorough soldiers.

I have the honor be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK.

*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 17, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have nothing of interest to report since my letter of the 12th. The fire upon Fort Sumter has been kept up, slowly and with marked effect. A breach which appears practicable has been made near the right gorge angle. We are now demolishing the left gorge angle, where the rebels have their magazine containing the small supply of ammunition left in the fort. I shall try the mine rafts as soon as I can go up there and arrange the details for locating and firing them. I would like very much to receive your sanction to the occupation of this fort, which, I think, can be done with little loss of life.

I am preparing to make an attack on the railroad and afterward on a point near Savannah. I am, however, not able to make these moves as rapidly as I desire for want of proper and sufficient transportation, of which I have made full reports. I will do the best I can. The jails are now being erected on Morris Island, and as soon as ready will receive the prisoners in my hands.

The health of the command is good.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have nothing important to communicate since my last report. The bombardment of Fort Sumter and the city is maintained slowly. I am extending Battery Putnam and connecting it with Battery Chatfield, so as to obtain positions for a larger number of guns bearing on Fort Sumter and the channel. We have already knocked down the temporary defenses erected by the rebels on top of the ruins of Sumter and have also scraped off the ruins at one point of the gorge, so as to make the ascent practicable from the water's edge. The northeast storm that has prevailed for several days has put a stop to the operations of the mine rafts as well as to all military movements by water. I hoped to have received aid from the monitors in floating these rafts against the fort, but I found after some delay that the officers entertained so many objections to going as near the fort as I judged necessary for effect, say 1,000 yards, that I was forced to give up the idea of their assistance. I then turned the rafts over to the boat infantry on shore to operate. I do not think that Admiral Dahlgren intends to undertake, on his own responsibility, any offensive operations with the iron-clads.

I have ascertained much with regard to the present condition of Fort Sumter from deserters. The summary of all this is as follows, viz: The lower tier of casemates is generally still intact and habitable, being used as quarters for officers and men, store-rooms, magazine, and gun-rooms. The top of the arches of this tier is covered with the debris from the second tier and parapet, and is nearly bomb-proof. The ends of the arches toward the parade are closed up by the ruins of the upper wall, and are thus effectually protected from shot or shell. A communication extends all around in this tier from casemate to casemate, even through the ruins of the gorge. The earth has been taken out of the parade to put upon the arches and bomb-proofs and to build traverses. A walk of 3 or 4 feet width only is left around the edges. The water in the space thus dug out is about 4 feet deep. A plank walk extends across this from the sally-port, which is on the left bank near the shoulder angle, to the battery, as it is called, which is on the right face near the shoulder angle. This battery is on the right face near the angle and consists of three guns. In rear of this, on the parade and covering the casemates, in which are the guns, is a large bomb-proof, constructed of timber and covered with earth. Two more guns are in casemates on the left face near the shoulder angle. One of these is fired as evening gun.

The sally-port is formed by enlarging an embrasure on the left flank near the shoulder angle. It has strong gates and opens upon a floating wharf. The magazine is now situated in the right shoulder angle of the fort. The old magazine in the left gorge angle was blown up accidentally some time ago. There are four light field pieces, 12-pounder howitzers, which are hauled to the top of the ruins every night to be used in case of assault. Hand-grenades of the improved pattern are also issued to the guard on the wall each night. This guard is about 100 men. The garrison numbers 250 men, and is relieved every two or three weeks. Captain Mitchel, the son of the Irish patriot, now commands. Temporary obstructions are placed upon the ruins at night, and removed before daylight. There is the fragment of a boom still in front of the right face. No torpedoes are around the fort.

The rebel force in this department has been very much increased since our demonstration on John's Island. At that time Jackson's brigade of Georgia troops (veterans) were withdrawn from Johnston's army, and arrived in time to fight our men on John's Island. Since then more men have arrived in Charleston. In Savannah the veteran force is reported from 1,500 to 2,500 men, besides all the heavy batteries and six field batteries of four guns each.

The line of the railroad is now strongly guarded in anticipation of a raid, and field batteries are stationed at central points, so as to be able to reach each available landing place. The point upon which I hoped to effect a surprise with our 300 cavalry is now guarded by a battery and 1,000 rebel cavalry. There are two points near Savannah that are accessible, but the operation will involve several days and nights spent in the rice fields, and this at this season will be apt to prostrate the troops with fever. I am, however, determined to attack somewhere as soon as I can make the necessary preparations, which take considerable time, as it will now be necessary to go in full force whenever I make an attempt.

I inclose copies of letters received (unofficially) from our officers, prisoners in Charleston, with my reply.

The health of the command continues good.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER.

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., August 4, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report, since the date of my last letter, that we have been able to achieve quite a little success in Florida.

Brig. Gen. William Birney having received instructions from me to seize the first opportunity that should occur for operating with his small force to destroy the railroad between Baldwin and Lake City, and at the same time to turn the former place, finding that the regiments of Georgia cavalry had been drawn away to guard the railroads in this vicinity against our threatened raid, collected quickly all his available force, and, moving up the river a short distance above Jacksonville, landed at the mouth of Black Creek, and pushing rapidly inland cut the Cedar Keys railroad, and following on quickly succeeded in destroying the long trestle-work over the south branch of the Saint Mary's River, on the Central Railroad. Turning then toward Baldwin, he advanced there on the rear of that place and forced the evacuation of that place, the enemy garrisoning it (consisting of the Florida reserves, both foot and cavalry, with fifteen pieces of artillery) retreating rapidly westward on the night of the 25th ultimo, and crossed the Saint Mary's River at the ferry in the Big Bend.

Our forces occupied Baldwin and its fortifications, capturing arms, stores, turpentine, &c., in a considerable quantity, the amount not known; the turpentine was accidentally fired. Subsequently Camp Milton, between Baldwin and Jacksonville, was found deserted and occupied by our troops.

The destruction of the trestle-work on these railroads cut off two



trains of cars, one of which, consisting of a locomotive and seven cars, has been already secured and brought into Jacksonville. The rebels had taken away one or two important pieces of the locomotive, which can soon be replaced.

Upon the report of this successful operation I resolved immediately to re-enforce General Birney with five regiments, and to have him move out with his whole force, and make a sweep of all horses and cattle and all able-bodied negro men from the Santa Fé and New Rivers, southward over the counties of Alachua, Levy, and Marion, and to bring his spoils across the upper Saint John's safely into the territory east of that river. If opportunity offered by the continued weakness of the enemy in Florida, he was to drive the enemy beyond the Suwannee River and destroy as much of the Central Railroad as possible. The Florida Railroad from Fernandina to Cedar Keys was to be kept intact to favor our own operations.

The troops were already embarking for this purpose when your order of the 25th ultimo, inclosing telegraphic order\* from General Grant, was received. Although this order was not peremptory, I did not consider that our necessities would warrant my delaying to carry out its directions at once. I therefore sent orders to General Birney to proceed at once to Fort Monroe with his brigade. Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch was immediately ordered from here to proceed at once to take command in General Birney's place, with regiments from this place to replace those taken away by General Birney, increased by an additional force from this vicinity, to enable him if possible to carry out the programme laid down for General Birney's action. Brigadier-General Hatch sailed with his force day before yesterday (the 2d instant).

General Birney, with that portion of his brigade now in Florida, had not yet arrived. One of the regiments of his brigade now here is sent on the Fulton, which sails this p. m., and the remaining ones will follow in transportation already provided immediately on their arrival from Florida. These four regiments number 2,500 effectives, and although colored troops, are as good as any troops in this department.

The health of the department is as good as it usually is at this season of the year, but many officers and men are beginning to feel the effects of the heat and their efficiency is correspondingly impaired.

The operations in the Northern District have been satisfactory. The slow and careful firing upon Fort Sumter is beginning to exhibit a marked effect; two breaches, one on the gorge and the other on the right flank, are being successfully made. The immense mass of debris that is presented in appearance to our forts is being smashed up and blown away by our shells in a slow but a sure manner. In a reasonable time the fort will be rendered untenable, and if still held by the enemy can be taken by our troops at any time we choose. I prefer, however, before doing this to wait until the preparations are completed, so as to avoid loss of life.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,  
*Major-General.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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\* See Part II, p. 185.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., August 8, 1864.*

GENERAL : The bombardment of Fort Sumter continues with marked effect, although our fire is very slow and unfrequent, in consequence of the stock of ammunition having given out and none being received. The rebels are calculating how many days they can hold the fort, expecting that we will assault. In consequence of our want of ammunition and guns, I have accepted the offer of Admiral Dahlgren of six 11-inch guns, with officers, crews, and ammunition, and these will soon be placed in a battery built by the troops, and will no doubt prove very effective. As you did not order the assaulting arks, plans of which I sent you, I am going to work building two of them here. These will be simply modern row galleys, fifty oars on a side; will draw 26 inches of water when loaded with 1,000 men; will have elevated towers for sharpshooters, and an assaulting ladder or gang-plank of 51 feet in length, operated by machinery. These will be very useful anywhere, in assaulting a fort or landing troops in shoal water. I propose also to build a light-draught iron-clad, and have written to General Meigs to ascertain if I can have the railroad iron, obtained from Florida, rolled into plates without delay; or if he can have an exchange made for 2-inch or 4-inch plates at once.

Very respectfully, and truly, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., August 18, 1864.*

GENERAL : I have the honor to report the following operations in this department since my last report :

Brigadier-General Hatch has been actively engaged with his command in Florida, making successful raids in the surrounding country, and reports favorably in regard to an anticipated capture of a large number of horses, and thinks that quite a number of negroes will also be found who are waiting to come within our lines. In Hilton Head District the new work on the line of constructions is now nearly completed, and another work is about being erected on a site near Mitchellville. The work at Spanish Wells is rapidly progressing toward completion. In Beaufort District the works are being strengthened and put in order for defensive operations, and a new work to serve as a citadel is being commenced. In the Northern District the bombardment of Fort Sumter is progressing slowly but surely. Admiral Dahlgren has kindly consented to loan six of the heaviest naval guns, with officers and men to work them. A parapet has been thrown up for these guns, and as soon as they are placed in proper position the demolition of Sumter will progress much more rapidly.

The tents for the 600 rebel prisoners of war are being put in position on Morris Island, and the quartermaster has been ordered to have a high and strong board fence put around them to prevent any



of the prisoners from escaping. The batteries in this district (Northern) are being improved and strengthened. The Swamp Angel has been put in thorough order again, and is now armed.

The orders sent by you from Lieutenant-General Grant in regard to sending troops to Washington is receiving every attention. Every available man is being got ready to be sent forward. The Forty-first New York Volunteers have already gone. They started in the steamer John Rice last night. The One hundred and third New York Volunteers and the Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers will go in the Arago and Cosmopolitan to-day, and others will be sent as soon as they arrive from the districts of the department.

On the morning of the 9th instant, the propeller Prince Albert, a blockading vessel, was discovered aground off Sullivan's Island, near Fort Moultrie, and was immediately opened upon by our batteries on the north end of Morris Island, which after a few effective shots succeeded in completely destroying her, bursting her boilers and setting her on fire before the enemy succeeded in getting off any but a small quantity of her cargo. She was loaded principally with medicines and other light articles.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., August 26, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that since my last report of operations in this department, under date of 18th instant, the news received from Florida is rather unfavorable. A cavalry raid, under command of Colonel Harris, Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry, consisting of 138 men Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry, 90 men Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, and one piece of artillery, sent out by Brigadier-General Hatch, supported by infantry, met with a disaster at Gainesville. It appears that the cavalry was too far in advance of the infantry to receive any support from it. While resting, and being very much scattered in Gainesville, they were surrounded by a body of Florida troops, under Captain Dickson, and were completely routed, with a loss of one piece of artillery, arms, and horses, and 100 men killed, wounded, and missing. This disaster apparently arose from the culpable negligence of the officers in command of the cavalry forces. An investigation is ordered, and if this supposition is found to be true, these officers will be properly punished.

The new works at Hilton Head and Beaufort have been laid out and the engineers are now busily engaged in erecting them. In the Northern District little, if any, alteration has taken place since my last report. The camp for the 600 rebel prisoners of war has been selected, and I am now having a strong fence put up around it to prevent any possibility of escape; this camp will be ready in a few

days, and I propose to take the prisoners up at once. The 600 prisoners of war (rebel) arrived yesterday morning in the U. S. steam transport *Crescent*, and are now in the harbor.

During the passage of the *Crescent* to this place a circumstance happened that obliged me to take immediate action upon her arrival here. The vessel, while off Cape Romain, on the night of the 23d instant, separated from her convoy, the U. S. gun-boat *Admiral*, and deliberately ran on the shoals, the night being very clear and moonlight. One prisoner escaped by jumping overboard and succeeded in swimming ashore, it being only about 100 yards distance when the vessel struck. The report of the circumstances connected with this occurrence convinced me that there was something culpable in the conduct of the captain and second mate, and I have ordered a court-martial, which is now in session, for their trial.\* I strongly suspect that they were influenced by bribes taken or accepted from the rebel prisoners to run the vessel ashore in order to allow them to escape.

The health of the department is not so good as it was. The sickness is increasing, but are principally cases of a malarious character. Every effort is being made to preserve the health and comfort of the men as far as possible.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., September 19, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following operations in this department since my last report to you:

The operations in the Northern District are progressing slowly. Requisition has been made for ammunition, but as it has not been filled as yet, I have been obliged to decrease the fire from the batteries on Morris Island. The fire on Sumter has almost entirely ceased in consequence, and the rebels are now taking advantage of the quiet by repairing that work. They have also a number of sharpshooters with telescopic rifles, who annoy working parties very much, so much so that but little work can be done in the daytime in the front batteries on Morris Island. The enemy's works in that district are being put in a strong defensible condition as rapidly as possible. The enemy have lately received large re-enforcements in the way of negro laborers from the interior of the State, and have them now actively employed in repairing their old and building new batteries.

The department now is strictly on the defensive, the new batteries being very nearly completed, and the old being in the course of thorough repair.

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\*The captain (Daniel D. Latham) and mate (William Baxter) were tried by general court-martial and found guilty of "neglect of duty." The former was sentenced "to be reprimanded in general orders," and the latter "to pay a fine of one hundred dollars." The proceedings, findings, and sentences were approved by Major-General Foster in General Orders, Nos. 126 and 127, headquarters Department of the South, August 31, 1864.

The prisoners of war on Morris Island are now thought to be perfectly secure from any danger of escape or rescue; decided orders have been given in view of any attempt of the kind. The rebels, in firing on Morris Island, do not endeavor to avoid this camp, and although the shot and shell fall all around no one has as yet received any injury. The prisoners seem to be perfectly contented with their lot. They receive the same treatment and rations as our prisoners now in Charleston.

The health of the department remains about the same. A number of the sick have been sent North, under charge of the medical director, they being in such a condition that a recovery in this climate was uncertain.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, October 4, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred in this department since the date of my last report. In the Northern District the usual firing on the city has been kept up. Sharp firing has at times taken place between our batteries and the enemy's batteries on James and Sullivan's Islands. Sufficient fire is kept up to interfere with the landing of supplies at their wharf, situated on the left flank. The work upon the repairs and enlargement of the front batteries on Cumming's Point is pushed as vigorously as the force will admit. I am surrounding these batteries by a new and strong palisading in the place of the old and flimsy one, so as to effectually secure them against a surprise attack of the enemy in boats. Proper arrangements for close defense and flanking of these batteries are also being made.

Brig. Gen. E. P. Scammon, having arrived and reported for duty, has been assigned to the command of this district, General Saxton returning to the Beaufort District.

The condition of the rebel prisoners in the stockade on Morris Island is generally good. Some of them are sickening on their scant fare, and 1 has died. I have not yet allowed the 6 rebel officers to take the oath of allegiance, as authorized by the honorable Secretary of War. I am not satisfied that they are worthy of that favor. They seem to be the most worthless and unreliable fellows in the whole lot. If I had known this at the time of forwarding their application I should have disapproved it. The prisoners have made several feeble and ineffectual attempts to escape by tunneling, &c., but against all such attempts on the part of the prisoners or of their friends to rescue them the precautions taken seem to be adequate. I permit the prisoners to receive private stores from their friends in the precise proportion of the stores actually delivered to our officers, prisoners in Charleston. I hear that the private contributions sent to our privates, now prisoners, were of great service, the condition of our men being deplorable. Many of them were naked; many had only a blouse or shirt to cover their nakedness; and still many that had only some rags tied about the middle to serve as a breech



clout. I am able to report from positive information that many of the people of Charleston exerted themselves in every way to relieve the necessities of our men, and freely, as far as their means would allow, made contributions of food and clothing. The effect, however, upon our men, as far as their military status is concerned, has been very bad, inasmuch as 389 of them have been induced to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States, and to go to work in the shops in Charleston. This is in addition to the number that I reported in my last letter as having gone to work on the fortifications of Mount Pleasant and Sullivan's Island.

The yellow fever is now prevailing in Charleston, but to what extent I am not informed. I have in consequence instituted a strict quarantine.

Our fire upon the city is now far more effective than ever before. Our shells reach the arsenal and the whole upper part of the city.

The general affairs of the department are in a satisfactory state. The health of the troops is improving, and it is expected will soon improve more rapidly from the effects of the coming cool weather.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,

*Hilton Head, S. C., October 13, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that the affairs of this department remain in a satisfactory condition. The whole force is occupied in the defense of the positions to be guarded, in strengthening the works of defense, in erecting barracks and shelters, and in the necessary works of police to preserve the health of our troops, and to avoid contagious infection from within the enemy's lines.

I have, since the date of my last report, made an inspection of the District of Florida. I find that General Hatch has diligently applied himself to the improvement of the defenses of Jacksonville, Magnolia, Picolata, and Yellow Bluff, so that in a short time those places will be impregnable to any attack short of a siege. I directed improvements to be made in the defenses of San Augustine, by renewing, manning, and arming the covered way of Fort Marion, and also the grand moat and parapet that cuts across the peninsula. To this work I have devoted the labor of the military prisoners of the department. I have also written to General Delafield with reference to certain improvements that should be made in the plans of Fort Clinch, at Fernandina, Fla., to render it impregnable to assaults and capable of withstanding a siege.

General Hatch had just received a report from Colonel Noble, of the Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, who, with a small force, had gone to Enterprise to capture a body of militia of Volusia County that were to meet on the 5th. It proved a successful enterprise. Colonel Noble captured Colonel Watson, the leader, 29 men, and 40 horses, and brought them all safely in.

The reports from the other districts are satisfactory. In the Northern District the usual amount of firing between our own and

the enemy's batteries continues. The firing on the city continues and has improved, so that our shells fall into the extreme upper part of the city with so much accuracy that the people who had formerly moved there for safety are now moving back toward the burnt district. I am confident that the city can be destroyed entirely by the fire of a large number of 100 and 200 pounder Parrott rifles—say twenty in number.

The work upon the enlargement and improvement of the batteries on Morris Island is diligently continued. The prisoners are well guarded. Brigadier-General Scammon has relieved Brigadier-General Saxton in command of that district.

Information received through Capt. D. W. Fox, of the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, who escaped from Charleston in the disguise of a rebel soldier on the 5th, represents the yellow fever as still prevailing at Charleston, and on the increase. The officers and men of our army recently prisoners of war in that city have all been removed, except the negro soldiers, to Columbia and other places in the northern part of the State. I have made no change in the disposition of the rebel officers in my hands, for the reason that our officers were a long time under fire before these men were placed in a corresponding position; that the negro soldiers are still under fire, and I am not officially informed of the removal of the white officers and soldiers. Captain Fox confirms the report of many of our men taking the oath of allegiance to the rebel Government, but states that he believes them to be mostly those men whose terms of service have expired.

The sanitary condition of the department is good. The health of the troops is improving, and no cases of yellow fever have appeared.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., October 20, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that since my communication of the 13th instant nothing of note has transpired in this department except the removal of the rebel prisoners of war from Morris Island, S. C., to Fort Pulaski, Ga., of which I have given full particulars in another communication.

The health of the command is very good. The yellow fever exists in Charleston and in the interior of the rebel lines, but we have, by instituting a strict quarantine, kept it out of the department; no cases have as yet occurred.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*



HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., October 28, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that since my report of the 20th instant nothing of importance has transpired in this department. From the Northern District Brigadier-General Scammon reports the works on Morris Island as progressing as rapidly as the means of transportation will allow.

On the morning of the 23d instant, a side-wheel steamer was discovered ashore opposite Battery Rutledge, Sullivan's Island. She had run on a shoal at that point during the night while endeavoring to run the blockade. Our batteries immediately opened fire upon her, and she now lies a complete wreck. I inclose a copy of the report\* of Col. William Ames, chief of artillery, in regard to the firing on this vessel. She is called the Flamingo by the navy, and the Flora or Florinne by the rebel papers.

From the District of Florida Brigadier-General Hatch reports the enemy as removing everything between the railroad and the Saint John's River.

The rebel prisoners of war are now safely quartered in Fort Pulaski, Ga. Every precaution has been taken to prevent the escape of any.

In the Districts of Beaufort and Hilton Head matters remain about the same. The works on the fortifications are being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The yellow fever still exists in Charleston and Savannah, and generally along the coast within the rebel lines. As yet we have had no cases reported in this department, which is undoubtedly due to the stringent quarantine and sanitary regulations established throughout the department. The health of the command is improving slowly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., November 6, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that since my report of the 28th ultimo very little of importance has transpired in this department. A small cavalry force sent out from Magnolia for the purpose of collecting cattle was attacked by the enemy in superior numbers and defeated with a loss of 20 to 30 men and a number of horses. I have accordingly ordered some changes to be made in the District of Florida. The post of Magnolia will be discontinued and a new post established to protect the inland passage from the Saint John's to Fernandina, with an earth-work for defense. The Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry I have ordered to be dismounted and the horses to be used for other purposes, transportation, &c.

In order to supply an officer of the requisite experience in the Northern District, I have ordered Brigadier-General Hatch to take

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\* See p. 108.

command and relieve Brigadier-General Scammon, whose health is very much impaired by his imprisonment, and was entirely broken down by exposure while in command of that district. As soon as General Scammon's health will permit he will go to Florida, which change is urgently recommended by the surgeon, to take command of that district.

In the Districts of Beaufort and Hilton Head everything remains in a quiet state, the troops being occupied in strengthening and improving the defenses and in drilling.

In the Northern District the work of strengthening and improving the batteries continues with unabated industry. Everything else is in a satisfactory state.

The general health of the command remains good. The yellow fever has not made its appearance yet, and owing to the strict sanitary and quarantine regulations established, and to the fact of the season being well advanced, it is not expected.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

*Chief of Staff.*

#### ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 153. }

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., November 7, 1864.*

The following summary of evidence relative to the attack on Forts Johnson and Simkins in July last is published for the information of the command. Its publication has been delayed by the illness and prolonged absence of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, who was originally charged with the investigation :

At 2 a. m., July 3, 1864, the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Hoyt, and the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry, Major Little, with 60 men of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, left Paine's Dock, Morris Island, in boats, and under orders to take Forts Johnson and Simkins. They were to cross Charleston Harbor till opposite the beach between the forts, then move by the left flank, pull vigorously to land, and assault with the bayonet. Clear and precise instructions were given to all concerned. The only signal of retreat was to be sounded on a bugle in possession of Colonel Hoyt. The pilot failed to find the passage through the bar near Fort Johnson, but a narrow channel was at last discovered near shore. Through this many of the boats had passed, when, by day breaking, the enemy opened a heavy fire, which was, however, almost entirely harmless, passing far overhead.

The boats commanded by Colonel Hoyt, Lieutenant-Colonel Conyngham, Captain Camp, and Lieutenants Stevens and Evans, all of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania, rowed rapidly to the shore, and these officers, with Adjutant Bunyan (afterwards killed) and 135 men, landed and drove the enemy, but, deserted by their comrades, were obliged to surrender to superior numbers. Colonel Hoyt bestows unqualified praise on the officers and men who landed with him; of them, 7 were killed and 16 wounded. Colonel Hoyt himself deserves great credit for his energy in urging the boats forward and

bringing them through the narrow channel, and the feeling which led him to land at the head of his men was the prompting of a gallant spirit which deserved to find more imitators.

At the time of Colonel Hoyt's landing great confusion existed in the second and third divisions of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Regiment, and a retreat commenced. It is impossible to discover which boats first led off the disgraceful movement, the occupants of each declaring that others were retreating before they themselves turned.

These divisions falling back in confusion, the One hundred and twenty-seventh shared the general movement, and the whole expedition returned to Paine's Dock.

Colonel Gurney, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Regiment, commanding Morris Island, who was charged with sending the expedition, did not accompany it, but remained at Paine's Dock. There seems no sufficient reason for this conduct. The presence of a commanding officer when the landing was effected would have been of the greatest service in preventing the retreat. The chief cause of failure was the lack of spirit, energy, and power of command on the part of subordinate officers. In such an expedition the commanders of boats exercise in a great measure an independent authority, while at the same time they are able to hold the men completely under their control. It is on them the main responsibility must rest, and it is plain that many of them were totally unequal to the occasion. Among those who seem to have been most wanting in decision and determination were Major Jayne, Captain Weed, and Lieutenants Farr, Moses, and Hollingsworth, of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Regiment, and the confusion in the boats of this regiment could only have arisen from a very lax state of discipline.

The One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Regiment showed more coolness and better discipline; still they not only retreated without proper orders, but were gravely in fault for not obeying the peremptory order of their commanding officer, Major Little (who seems to have done everything that could be done), to land at once. From this censure must be excepted Captain Henry and Lieutenants Little and Abercrombie, who brought their boats to shore and landed. Captain Weston, too, deserves favorable mention. The officers and men of the Third Rhode Island Artillery appear to have behaved well. The expedition was well planned and would have succeeded, had it not been for the absence of the commanding officer and the want of spirit and energy on the part of many of his subordinates.

The major-general commanding regrets that he has felt it his duty to make known the results of investigation into an affair which reflects so little credit on most of those concerned. He has reason to hope that many are heartily ashamed of their conduct, and he trusts it will be a lesson to the whole command, and especially to officers of all grades, how indispensable to the success of the most promising plan is the possession of determination and soldierly spirit by those who are to execute it.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster :

W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



## No. 3.

*Itinerary of Military Operations, January 1–November 13.\**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.†

## JANUARY, 1864.

*Northern District, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry.*

Northern District established January 15, 1864, consisting of that portion of the department bounded on the north by Charleston Harbor and on the south by Saint Helena Sound. Two posts on Folly Island, S. C., consolidated into one command by the order constituting the district. The Third Brigade, U. S. Forces, Morris Island, S. C., ordered to Hilton Head January 28, 1864. The Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers ordered from Folly Island to Hilton Head, S. C., January 13, 1864. The Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteers, re-enlisted as veterans, ordered to Ohio January 14, 1864.

*January 19.*—Light Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, ordered to Hilton Head.

*January 25.*—First New York Volunteer Engineers ordered to Hilton Head.

*Foster's Brigade, commanded by Col. Jeremiah C. Drake, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry.*

This brigade has, during the past month, been engaged in the following duties: The Thirteenth Indiana and one company of the One hundred and twelfth and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers were engaged in doing picket duty on Long Island; 2 commissioned officers and 64 men employed in guarding the signal telegraph between Hilton Head and Folly Island. The remainder of the brigade were engaged in doing picket and guard duty on this island [Folly].

## FEBRUARY, 1864.

*February 7.*—Occupation of Jacksonville, Fla.

*February 9.*—Forces under Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig made demonstrations on John's Island, S. C. A detachment of Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers left Fernandina, Fla., marching 35 miles inland, and returned, finding no enemy.

*February 15.*—Detachment of Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers left Fernandina and proceeded up the Saint Mary's River to Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, securing 700,000 feet of lumber. District of Florida constituted, comprising all of the State within the department limits.

*February 20.*—Battle of Olustee, Fla.

*February 21.*—Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania and detachment of Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, commanded by Col. J. B. Howell, made demonstration on Whitmarsh Island, Savannah River, Ga.

\*As reported on the monthly returns of the commands indicated.

†Commanded by Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore to May 1, 1864; Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch to May 26, 1864, and Maj. Gen. John G. Foster to February 9, 1865.

*Northern District, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry.*

FOLLY ISLAND, S. C.—General Foster's brigade of Vogdes' division, General Ames' brigade, the Colored Brigade, under command of Colonel Beecher, and Battery E, Third U. S. Artillery, Capt. John Hamilton, ordered to Jacksonville, Fla. General Vogdes and staff also sent there.

*February 8.*—With parts of the First and Second Brigades and Foster's brigade of Vogdes' division, and six pieces of artillery, all under command of Brig. Gen. A. Schimmelfennig, crossed to Kiawah and Seabrook Islands to make a demonstration to distract the enemy's attention from the expedition to Jacksonville.

*February 9.*—Crossed the Haulover Cut to John's Island at daylight, driving in the enemy's pickets with some loss and taking some prisoners.

*February 10.*—Remained on the island.

*February 11.*—Pushed forward some 3 miles, meeting the enemy's pickets and firing with artillery. Returned at night to Kiawah in obedience to orders. While on John's Island discovered a book containing all the signals sent from Folly Island by the signal telegraph, correctly given, showing that the rebels have the key to our system of signals.

MORRIS ISLAND, S. C.—*February 1.*—Blockade-running steamer Presto ran aground at Fort Moultrie and was destroyed by the batteries on this island and the monitors.

*February 6.*—Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers transferred to Hilton Head, S. C.

*February 18.*—Sloop-of-war Housatonic destroyed by a torpedo off Morris Island.

*February 27.*—Third New Hampshire Volunteers transferred to Hilton Head, S. C.

*First Brigade, Gordon's Division, commanded by Col. Leopold von Gilsa, Forty-first New York Infantry.*

*February 6-12.*—The Forty-first, Fifty-fourth, and One hundred and forty-second New York and Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Regiments participated in an expedition commanded by Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig to John's Island. The route was via Kiawah and Seabrook Islands, and across Haulover Cut bridge, at which point the rebel outposts were surprised by the One hundred and forty-second Regiment, which had the advance.

*February 9-11.*—Skirmishes with the rebels occurred, the latter being near Bugbee Bridge. The Forty-first New York sustained an aggregate loss in killed, wounded, and missing of 13 men, and the One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers of 2; no other casualties occurred. The troops returned to their respective camps on the 12th.

*February 26.*—The Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers moved from Kiawah to Folly Island.

*U. S. Forces, Hilton Head District, commanded by Col. Joshua B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry.*

*February 21.*—The Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers and detachment of the Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, under the command of Col. J. B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers,



commanding district, went on an expedition to Whitemarsh Island, near Savannah, Ga.; captured 16 prisoners of war; lost Lieutenant Michener, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, wounded and taken prisoner; 2 men missing in action.

*District of Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. Truman Seymour.*

*February 7.*—Jacksonville, Fla., was occupied by the troops under Brig. Gen. T. Seymour.

*February 16.*—District of Florida organized.

*February 20.*—Battle of Olustee fought.

*Foster's Brigade, commanded by Col. Jeremiah C. Drake, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry.*

Until the 23d of the month the brigade has been doing picket duty on Long Island. Sixty-four men and 2 commissioned officers of the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers were employed in guarding the signal telegraph between Hilton Head and Folly Island. Two regiments of the brigade, One hundred and sixty-ninth and One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers, formed part of the forces under Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, who made a reconnaissance to John's Island.

*February 23.*—Brigade sailed for Jacksonville, where it arrived on the 25th. Since that time it has been engaged in doing picket and guard duty at that place.

*Second Brigade, Ames' Division, commanded by Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry.*

At date of last report the brigade was stationed at Saint Helena Island, S. C.

*February 5.*—Forming part of General Seymour's expeditionary force, it sailed for the Saint John's River and advanced to Jacksonville on Monday, the 8th. The brigade, to which was attached the Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, bore an honorable part in the events of the advance into Florida, and lost largely in the action at Olustee on the 20th.

*Third Brigade (colored), Ames' Division, commanded by Col. Milton S. Littlefield, Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops.*

*February 14*—The brigade left Folly Island and proceeded to Jacksonville, reporting on arrival to Brigadier-General Seymour, commanding District of Florida. The First North Carolina Colored Volunteers were ordered to the front, and were shortly after attached to another brigade. The Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers were attached to the Third Brigade.

*Light Brigade, commanded by Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Infantry.*

*February 4.*—The troops of this command left Hilton Head, S. C., arriving on the morning of the 8th at Jacksonville, Fla. In the afternoon started up the country along the line of the Tallahassee

railroad; at Ten-Mile Cut captured a rebel battery and a quantity of stores; went to Baldwin the next morning; captured several guns and prisoners and much property.

*February 10.*—Met the enemy at Barber's Ford, and after a sharp skirmish drove them; followed on to Sanderson.

*February 11.*—Had a skirmish at Lake City.

*February 12.*—Returned to Sanderson. From that time to the 20th occupied in raids, &c.

*February 20.*—Participated in the battle of Olustee; covered the retreat of the army to Three-Mile Run, where we have since remained doing outpost duty.

### MARCH, 1864.

*March 1.*—Detachment of cavalry, mounted infantry, and light artillery, under command of Col. G. V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers, left Jacksonville, Fla., on reconnaissance; drove in the enemy's pickets at McGirt's Creek and retired to Three-Mile Run.

*March 9.*—Demonstration made on Bull's Island, S. C., by a detachment of 750 men, commanded by Col. William Gurney, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers.

*March 10.*—Palatka, Fla., occupied by the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, and One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, and detachment of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, all under Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers.

*March 24.*—Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch, U. S. Volunteers, assigned to duty in command of the District of Florida, relieving Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, U. S. Volunteers.

*Northern District, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry.*

*March 9.*—Col. William Gurney, with 750 men, sent to make a demonstration at Bull's Island. Expedition landed, partially explored the island, and returned on the 11th instant without loss. The geographical limits of the post of Folly Island were altered by General Orders, No. 8, paragraph I, headquarters Northern District, Department of the South, March 19, 1864, and restricted to that portion of the island west of a line drawn from district headquarters due northwest to Folly River.

*District of Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch.*

*March 1.*—A battalion of Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, two squadrons of Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, and one section of Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, advanced to McGirt's Creek on a reconnaissance; met the enemy's pickets and drove them in. They were immediately re-enforced and in turn drove our forces back. The fight lasted from 10 a. m. until 3 p. m., our men contesting every foot of ground. We were obliged to fall back to Three-Mile Run, where we encamped and remained until the 30th instant, when orders were received to fall back to a higher piece of ground about 1 mile nearer Jacksonville.

*March 9.*—Barton's brigade, a detachment of Third Rhode Island Artillery, and Company I, First New York Volunteer Engineers, all

under command of Col. W. B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, left Jacksonville and proceeded to Palatka, 75 miles up the Saint John's River, where they disembarked without opposition on the 10th instant. Here they have remained, constructing defenses, mounting guns, &c.

*March 28.*—Brig. Gen. T. Seymour relieved from command of this district by Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch.

*U. S. Forces, Palatka, Fla., commanded by Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry.*

*March 9.*—Barton's brigade, a detachment of the Third Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, and Company I, Volunteer Engineers, all under command of Col. W. B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, left Jacksonville, Fla., at 8 p. m., and proceeded to Palatka, Fla., 75 miles up the Saint John's River, where they disembarked without opposition at 6 a. m. on the morning of the 10th. Here they have remained, constructing defenses, mounting guns, &c.

*Light Brigade, District of Florida, commanded by Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Infantry.*

*March 1.*—A reconnoitering party, consisting of two squadrons Fortieth Massachusetts, a battalion Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, and one section of Battery B, was sent out; met the enemy's pickets at McGirt's Creek and drove them back, but they were immediately re-enforced with infantry and artillery and in turn compelled us to retire, which we did, contesting every foot of ground; fell back to Three-Mile Run and encamped.

*Third Brigade (colored), Ames' Division, commanded by Col. Edward N. Hallowell, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry.*

*March 9.*—Col. A. S. Hartwell, commanding Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, with five companies of his regiment, reported to Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, commanding brigade. They proceeded with the expedition to Palatka; one company of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers remained in Jacksonville, and was detailed as garrison to Redoubt Fribbley. The two remaining companies of the regiment proceeded to Yellow Bluff, Fla., and reported to Lieut. Col. C. B. Fox, Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding post, who was then in command of two companies of the same regiment.

*Montgomery's Brigade, commanded by Col. James Montgomery, Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops.*

The regiment commanded by Col. James Montgomery, formerly known as the Second South Carolina Volunteers, by a special order from the War Department, was changed to the Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops. The fragment of a regiment commanded by Lieut. Col. Augustus G. Bennett, and known as the Third South Carolina Volunteers, and the fragment of a regiment commanded by Col. M. S. Littlefield, by a special order from the War Department, were consolidated and called the Twenty-first Regiment U. S. Colored Troops.



*March 30.*—The colonel commanding brigade received orders to proceed to Palatka, Fla. ; transportation was furnished for but one regiment ; in the evening the Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops broke camp and embarked on board transports and reached Palatka, Fla., on the morning of the 31st.

APRIL, 1864.

*Tenth Army Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore.*

The corps left the Department of the South, in detachments, during the month for rendezvous at Gloucester Point, Va.

JUNE, 1864.

*District of Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. William Birney.*

*June 1.*—Troops of the district, commanded by Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon (temporarily organized in two brigades, under Colonels Noble and Shaw), made an expedition from Jacksonville, and routed the rebels from Camp Milton by a brilliant flank movement, which rendered their strong intrenchments useless for defensive operations. The enemy fled precipitately.

*June 3.*—Expedition returned to Jacksonville after destroying with fire the enemy's extensive and imposing line of fortifications in front of Jacksonville.

JULY, 1864.

*District of Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. William Birney.*

General Birney, with the Seventh and four companies of the Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, absent on expedition in South Carolina until the 10th of the month. During the general's absence the district was commanded by Colonel Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers. The enemy having established a camp on Trout Creek, in close proximity to Yellow Bluff, endangering the forces at that point, also the navigation of the river, the troops at Jacksonville, led by General Birney in person, moved to meet them July 15. The rebels fled without fighting. Three days were occupied in the pursuit, destroying the corn fields and torpedo manufactories, and tearing up railroads, telegraph, &c., between Trout Creek and Nassau River. At the latter point a valuable saw-mill was seized.

*July 23.*—An expedition under Brigadier-General Birney (composed of the Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers, Seventh, Eighth, and Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Battery A, Third Rhode Island Artillery, and two companies of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry) left post at Jacksonville, and disembarking at the mouth of Black Creek in the night, marched to and took Baldwin. This was accomplished without serious opposition. A few of the enemy were surprised at Baldwin and made prisoners.

*July 30.*—Palatka was occupied by three companies of the Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, commanded by Capt. William L. Hubbell, of the same regiment. Before the troops landed a shell was thrown into the town from the gun-boat Hale, and directly after 2 or 3 rebel pickets were observed to leave the place.

*District of Beaufort, commanded by Brig. Gen. Edward E. Potter.*

Since the last monthly return the following-named regiments, Fifty-sixth New York State Volunteers, Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, and Battery F, Third New York Artillery, have been engaged in action with the enemy on John's and James Islands, S. C. These organizations were absent from Beaufort, S. C., from June 30 to July 10, during which time they were occupied in a reconnaissance, the object of which was successfully attained with small loss of life.

*Morris Island, S. C., commanded by Col. William Gurney, One hundred and Twenty-seventh New York Infantry.*

*July 1.*—Battery B, Third New York Artillery, the Fifty-fourth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, and Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops left the post to join an expedition against James Island, under command of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig. These troops returned July 11. The casualties during their absence were as follows: In the Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, 20 enlisted men lost by drowning. A boat accidentally upset in Stono River. In the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, 1 man died of sunstroke.

*July 2.*—In the night an assault from boats was made upon the enemy's works at Johnson's Point, James Island. The forces engaged were the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, under command of Colonel Hoyt; the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, under Major Little, and a detachment of 60 men from the Third Rhode Island Heavy Artillery. Being opened upon by a heavy fire of both artillery and musketry, a small force only effected a landing, nearly all of whom were captured by the enemy. The boats returned under a heavy fire from the batteries of James and Sullivan's Islands. The casualties were as follows: Killed, 1 enlisted man, Third Rhode Island Heavy Artillery; wounded, 2 enlisted men, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers; missing, 6 officers and 134 men of Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, and 1 man of Signal Corps.

AUGUST, 1864.

*District of Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch.*

*August 3.*—Palatka abandoned; troops transferred to Picolata, A skirmish at Palatka previous to its abandonment resulted in the capture of 1 officer and 7 enlisted men of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.

*August 4.*—Brig. Gen. William Birney relieved from command of the district by General Hatch.

*August 4 and 6.*—Command re-enforced by the arrival of the Thirty-fourth and One hundred and second Regiments U. S. Colored Troops and the One hundred and fourth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers from Hilton Head.

*August 6.*—General Birney left the district, taking with him the Seventh and Eighth Regiments U. S. Colored Troops.

*August 15.*—Baldwin burned and abandoned. The mounted portion of the forces there, consisting of the Seventy-fifth Ohio,



Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, and one section of Light Battery A, Third Rhode Island Artillery, all in command of Colonel Harris, Seventy-fifth Ohio, started same day on an expedition. Moved southward through New River and Alachua Counties, arriving at Gainesville August 17, where a severe engagement took place, with heavy loss to our side. Colonel Harris, with the remnant of his command, cut his way out of Gainesville and retreated, fighting, towards Magnolia, on the Saint John's River, which place he reached August 18. Colonel Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut, who left Baldwin August 15, with an infantry column composed of the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, and One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, reached Magnolia on the evening of August 19, bringing in about 75 contrabands, some horses, wagons, and other captured property, not having encountered any of the enemy's forces.

SEPTEMBER, 1864.

*District of Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch.*

*September 24.*—A slight skirmish near Magnolia between 12 of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, under Captain Staples, and a portion of the rebel Captain Dickison's command; no casualties.

The troops at Magnolia, under direction of the engineer department, were employed during the greater part of the month in erecting earth-works and preparing their position for defense.

Company A, Third Rhode Island Artillery, Capt. William H. Hamner, was relieved from duty in District of Florida by Company F, Third New York Artillery.

*September 28.*—All the available troops of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry, Col. Andrew L. Harris, also portions of the Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers and Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, left camp on an expedition to the vicinity of Enterprise, Volusia County. The expedition commanded by Col. William H. Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, not yet returned.

The régiments and detachments stationed at the several posts of the district engaged during the month in improving their drill, equipment, means of defense, and general efficiency.

*District of West Florida and South Alabama, Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger.*

*September 16.*—A force of 700 cavalry and infantry, mounted, left Barrancas, under command of General Asboth, on an expedition into the west part of Florida. They penetrated as far as Marianna, where they met and repulsed, after a sharp fight, a rebel force under Colonel Montgomery, capturing him and 80 of his men, 200 horses and mules, 100 stand of arms, several wagons, 400 cattle, and 600 contrabands, all of which were brought safely within our lines. Our loss was 39 killed, wounded, and missing. Brigadier-General Asboth was severely wounded, but retained command until the close of the expedition. Major Cutler and Lieutenant Adams, with several enlisted men of the Second Maine Cavalry, were badly wounded and left at Marianna. Captain Young, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, and Lieutenant Ayer, Second Maine Cavalry, were killed. The losses are not reported on this return, as no official reports were received from the régiments in season.

## OCTOBER, 1864.

*District of Florida (or Fourth Brigade), commanded by Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch.*

*October 4-8.*—The expedition to Enterprise, Volusia County, in command of Colonel Noble (started from Jacksonville and Magnolia September 29th and 30th), returned safely to camp; no casualties; 29 prisoners (civilians and soldiers) taken and about 30 horses and mules.

*October 11-15.*—Detachments from regiments stationed at Jacksonville were sent up the St. John's River to Orange Mills to get oranges. Over 300 barrels were obtained, a part distributed to the troops in the district, and the remainder shipped to Hilton Head. Maj. Gen. John G. Foster, the department commander, visited the district on the 13th; left the 15th.

*October 17, 18.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Marple, of Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding U. S. forces at Magnolia, East Florida, made a raid into the country about Cedar Creek and secured and drove into Magnolia 150 head of fine beef-cattle.

*October 24.*—Two companies of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Marple, Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, met the enemy at Gum Creek, 8 miles from Magnolia; fought him one hour, then retreated with loss of 3 men killed and several wounded and captured; 40 horses were killed. The strength of the U. S. contending force was about 50; that of the enemy nearly 400. Our loss in killed, wounded, and captured was 29.

*District of West Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth.*

*October 18.*—A detachment of 200 men and one section of First Florida Battery, under Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling, were sent up Escambia Bay on the steamer Planter to collect logs. While thus engaged they were attacked by the rebels, about 300 strong, who were repulsed after one hour's heavy skirmishing, and the expedition returned with 140 pine logs, having lost 2 men; rebels lost 4 killed or mortally wounded.

*October 19.*—About the same number under Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling were sent up Escambia Bay to collect bricks. Returned the same day with 10,000 without having been molested.

*October 25.*—Another detachment, under same commander, was sent for bricks, with the same result.

*October 31.*—A force of 700 men, under Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling, left on steamers Planter and Lizzie Davis for same point up Escambia Bay. Proceeded as far as Milton; encountered and badly whipped a cavalry and militia force of the rebels, capturing several prisoners, killing and wounding quite a number, and capturing some horses and mules, quite a large amount of quartermaster's and commissary stores, ordnance and ordnance stores, and a large amount of different kinds of lumber, among which was 85,000 feet of long lumber. No casualties on our side. Very much credit is due Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling for the energy and ability he has shown, and the care and foresight which have enabled him to accomplish successfully such important (to us) results. He has the confidence of his officers and men, and they do not hesitate to go where he leads, and he is never behind.

NOVEMBER, 1864.

*District of Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. E. Parker Scammon.*

November 1-7.—Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers transferred from Empire Mills to Jacksonville; the regiment dismounted and the horses shipped to Hilton Head; post of Magnolia abandoned on the 4th; the Thirty-fourth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops transferred from that post to Jacksonville.

November 14.—Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Volunteers, relieved from command of the district by Brig. Gen. E. P. Scammon, U. S. Volunteers.

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No. 4.

*Report of Maj. John C. Gray, jr., Judge-Advocate, Department of the South, of investigation relative to assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
Hilton Head, S. C., October 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of the report of the investigation into the cause of the failure of the attack on Forts Johnson and Simkins, James Island, S. C., on the night of July 2, 1864. In explanation of the reason for the delay in transmitting this report I would respectfully state that it was in consequence of the long illness of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, who made the entire examination himself, examining not only the officers, but the enlisted men, but who in consequence of ill health could not make up the report. The present report, made by Major Gray, judge-advocate, though much condensed, is very clear and distinct, and I think covers all the points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,  
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
Hilton Head, S. C., October 26, 1864.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the accompanying report of the attack on Forts Johnson and Simkins on the night of July 2, 1864. Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, U. S. Volunteers, was ordered to make a report on this subject, but went North on sick leave before doing so, and the large mass of evidence which he had collected was referred to me, by order of the major-general commanding the department, for investigation and report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. GRAY, JR.,  
Major and Judge-Advocate.



HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*October 26, 1864.*

Report of the attack on Forts Johnson and Simkins, James Island, S. C., on the night of July 2, 1864:

On the evening of July 2, 1864, the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Hoyt, and the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry, Major Little, were sent on an expedition from Morris Island to James Island. Three detachments of 20 men each from the Third Rhode Island Volunteer Artillery accompanied them, two attached to the Fifty-second Pennsylvania and one to the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York. The men embarked immediately after dark and proceeded to Paine's Dock. The low stage of the tide caused the boats to run aground, producing some delay. The boats started from Paine's Dock in single file, the Fifty-second Pennsylvania leading. They were to cross the harbor till opposite the beach between Simkins and Johnson; then each boat's crew was to turn to the left, pull vigorously to land, and assault with the bayonet, the Fifty-second Pennsylvania attacking Fort Johnson, the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Fort Simkins. Clear and precise instructions were given to all concerned. The only signal of retreat was to be sounded on a bugle in possession of Colonel Hoyt.

The time of leaving Paine's Dock was about 2 a. m. Some of the boats were pontoons, some metallic boats; a few leaked, but the great majority were in good condition, and the failure cannot be attributed to any defect in the means of transportation. Perhaps as much cannot be said for the skill of the boatmen. If the boats had been steered and rowed by seamen, much of the grounding and fouling which delayed the progress of the expedition and furnished an excuse to the faint-hearted for not pushing vigorously on might have been avoided. The pilot, Sergeant Bennett, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York, failed to find the passage through the bar near Fort Johnson; he seems to have lost his lead. Colonel Hoyt declares himself unable to decide whether this man was merely ignorant or was guilty of willful misconduct. Colonel Hoyt and Lieutenant-Colonel Conyngham, Fifty-second Pennsylvania, by their personal exertion, succeeded in finding a narrow channel through the bar and close to the shore. They passed through, but it was now about daybreak, and the enemy, discovering them, opened a heavy fire, which, however, was almost entirely harmless, passing far overhead.

The boats commanded by Colonel Hoyt, Lieutenant-Colonel Conyngham, Captain Camp, Lieutenant Stevens, and Lieutenant Evans, all of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania, rowed rapidly to the shore, and these officers, with Adjutant Bunyan (afterward killed) and 135 men, landed, took a water battery, and pushed toward Fort Johnson. This work they were not able to carry, and, being deserted by their comrades, were obliged to surrender to a force of the enemy estimated by Colonel Hoyt at 150 when the attack commenced and 300 at the time of his surrender.

Colonel Hoyt bestows unqualified praise on the officers and men who landed with him, of whom 7 were killed and 16 wounded. Colonel Hoyt himself deserves great credit for his energy in hurrying on the boats, and bringing them through a narrow passage in the bar when the pilot had failed.



It might have been better, as shown by results, if Colonel Hoyt had remained in immediate command of the second division of his regiment, which he at starting took under his charge, and in which and in the third division the retreat commenced; he might have stopped the confusion and retreat; but his error, if any, in landing at the head of his regiment was certainly a pardonable one, and a natural consequence of his inherent gallantry.

At the time of Colonel Hoyt's landing great confusion existed in the second and third divisions of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Regiment (each regiment had three divisions), and a retreat commenced. It is impossible to discover which boats first led off the disgraceful movement. The occupants of each declare that they saw others retreating before they themselves turned; the second and third divisions of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania falling back in confusion. The One hundred and twenty-seventh New York shared the general movement, and retreated also. The whole expedition returned to Morris Island.

Colonel Gurney, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York, commanding post of Morris Island, who was charged with sending the expedition, did not accompany it, but remained at Paine's Dock. There seems no sufficient reason for this conduct. The expedition was a highly important one, comprising a considerable part of the force on Morris Island, and there was no danger of any attack on the island during its absence. The presence of a commanding officer when the landing was effected would undoubtedly have been of great service in preventing the retreat. Colonel Gurney certainly committed at least a great error of judgment.

The chief cause of failure was the want of dash, energy, and authority on the part of the subordinate officers. In an expedition of this kind, the officers commanding boats must exercise in great measure an independent authority, while at the same time they have the men entirely under their control. It is upon them that the main responsibility must rest, and the evidence shows that many of them were totally unequal to this occasion. Among those who seem to have been most wanting in decision and power of command were Major Jayne, Captain Weed, and Lieutenants Farr, Moses, and Hollingsworth, of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania, and the confusion in the boats could only have arisen from a very lax state of discipline in this regiment.

The One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Regiment is less culpable than the Fifty-second Pennsylvania, inasmuch as they followed instead of leading in the retreat, and they showed more coolness and discipline; still they are gravely in fault for not obeying the peremptory orders of their commanding officer, Major Little (who seems to have done everything in his power), to land. From this censure must be excepted Captain Henry, Captain Little, and Lieutenants Little and Abercrombie, who brought their boats to the shore and landed. Captain Weston, too, deserves favorable mention. The officers and men of the Third Rhode Island Artillery behaved well.

The expedition was well planned, and notwithstanding hinderances and delays would have succeeded had it not been for the absence of the commanding officer and the want of spirit and energy on the part of many of his subordinates.

JOHN C. GRAY, JR.,  
*Major and Judge-Advocate.*

## No. 5.

*Reports of Capt. Henry R. Clum, Chief Signal Officer, of operations  
February 5-March 31 and May 1-July 31.*

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 29, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition of the signal detachment in the Department of the South, and of its operations from 5th instant to the date hereof:

I found on my arrival at this place an expedition about starting for Florida. Four commissioned officers and 15 enlisted men of the signal corps accompanied it—3 commissioned officers and 12 enlisted men with General Seymour, who was in command of the expedition, and 1 commissioned officer and 3 enlisted men with General Gillmore, who accompanied the expedition as far as Jacksonville, Fla. The remaining commissioned officers and enlisted men in the detachment were stationed at these headquarters on the U. S. steamer Vermont, on the signal line between this place and Folly Island, and on outposts on Morris, Long, and Black Islands.

On the 8th instant, an expedition under General Schimmelfennig, to John's Island, S. C., was accompanied by Lieutenants Andrews, Bruyn, and Head, with their flagmen. The accompanying plan,\* copy of the one forwarded by Lieutenant Andrews with his report of operations, will show the locations of the stations established. The station on Botany Bay Island is one of the stations on line between this place and Folly Island, and communicates with station on Kiawah Island and thence to Folly Island. Lieutenant Head was stationed at Station No. 1, on plan; Lieutenant Andrews at Station No. 2, and Lieutenant Bruyn at Station No. 3. But little signaling was done. At place marked "battle-field" on plan some artillery firing took place, our forces retiring and finally returning with no other engagement.

While at or near Haulover Cut, a book was found containing copies of messages that had been transmitted over the line between this place and Folly Island. The messages had been read from Botany Bay station by a man belonging to the rebel signal corps. No messages of importance or from which the enemy could derive any information was found in the book. The officers in this detachment, I understand, had been instructed to send all important messages in cipher. I have since given instructions to transmit all official messages in cipher. Immediately after learning the enemy had been reading our signals, a number of false messages were, at the suggestion of Lieutenant Andrews, transmitted by order of the commanding general through to Botany Bay station, in order to mislead the enemy, should any one be in position to read them. The expedition returning soon after the messages were transmitted, their effect was not ascertained.

On the 15th instant, by order of the general commanding Department of the South, the signal line between Hilton Head and Folly Island was discontinued, it being, in his opinion, of not sufficient importance to warrant its being kept open, and, in accordance with instructions from department headquarters, the officers and enlisted men on Saint Helena, Otter, Big Bay, and Botany Bay Islands were ordered to report at these headquarters. On same day I placed

\* Not found.

Lieut. W. S. Andrews in charge of the signal detachments in the Northern District, Department of the South. His command at present consists of 4 commissioned officers and 24 enlisted men.

On the 17th instant, a station was opened at Land's End, Saint Helena Island, to communicate with station at this place. Lieut. Charles F. Cross was placed in charge of the station, having with him Lieut. O. B. Ireland and 10 enlisted men. This station will be of but little use, but the officers and men will be near at hand in case of any emergency.

On the 19th instant, Lieutenants Cross and Ireland, with 6 enlisted men, accompanied an expedition under Colonel Howell to White-marsh Island, near Savannah, Ga. No occasion offered for using signals, as the expedition was recalled just as our troops were landing.

I have not, as yet, received reports from the officers in Florida. I am, however, advised by letters from Captain Dana, who is in charge of the signal detachment in the District of Florida, that, with the exception of communication by signals between the land and naval forces at Jacksonville, no work has been done by his detachment. The country through which our forces marched, and in which the late battle was fought, is perfectly level and thickly wooded, rendering it impossible to signal.

A rebel signal code was found by Captain Dana at a place called Baldwin. It is the same, or nearly so, as the one discovered, I think, by Captains Marston and Thickstun, with the Army of the Potomac. At the request of Captain Dana, I inclose a copy of the code\* herewith.

On the 20th instant, Lieut. George A. Fisher, with 20 enlisted men of the Signal Corps, U. S. Army, arrived from Signal Camp of Instruction, Georgetown, D. C., and reported for duty.

All the enlisted men in this detachment who desire to be examined with a view to transfer to the Signal Corps, U. S. Army, have been examined, with the exception of 2 who are sick in hospital.

During the month 19 enlisted men who have either declined or failed to pass the prescribed examination for enlisted men have been returned to their regiments. One of these men was, in fact, returned in the month of January, but I think no notice of it was made on any return for that month. There are 4 enlisted men yet remaining, who should be returned to their regiments; they are, however, on detached service with the U. S. military telegraphs.

Nothing further worthy of note has transpired during the month.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,

*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the South.*

Maj. W. J. L. NICODEMUS,

*In charge Signal Bureau, Washington, D. C.*

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HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., March 31, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the signal detachment in the Department of the South for the month ending this day, and of its present condition:

In the Northern District the stations are as follows: One at Stono,

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\* Not found.



on Folly Island, and one on Kiawah Island; these two are flag stations. On Morris Island is a lookout station at lookout tower, and another at left battery. On Black Island is another station, and on Long Island another. The stations at left battery, Black Island, and Long Island communicate with station at lookout tower by means of preconcerted signals.

On the 9th instant, an expedition under Colonel Gurney, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, from Folly Island to Bull's Island, a place some 35 or 40 miles up the coast from Folly Island, was accompanied by Lieutenants Clemens and Amsden, with their flagmen. No engagement took place, the object of the expedition being simply to attract the attention of the enemy. Some 15 or 20 messages were sent. The expedition returned to Folly Island on the 11th instant.

In the District of Florida, two stations have been opened, one at Yellow Bluff, about 7 miles from Jacksonville in air line; the other at the pilot-house at the mouth of Saint John's River, distant about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Yellow Bluff in air line. At Yellow Bluff a tower has been built 90 feet high, another on a church at Jacksonville, 85 feet high from the ground. Communication between Yellow Bluff and the pilot-house is perfect. Between Yellow Bluff and Jacksonville it has not yet been opened, owing to the tower at Jacksonville not being high enough.

Another tower is being built at that place, and when completed I think the communication will be perfect on the whole line from Jacksonville to the mouth of the river. At Yellow Bluff we have a force stationed; it is the only important point on the river between Jacksonville and the mouth of the river, being the only place the enemy could station a battery with which to annoy our transports. It is an isolated post and some 15 miles from Jacksonville by way of the river.

Communication is had between gun-boats on the river and the stations at Yellow Bluff and pilot-house by means of preconcerted signals.

No change of station has been made in the Southern District since my last report. The detachment at present is distributed as follows: In the Northern District, 4 commissioned officers and 28 enlisted men; in the District of Florida, 7 commissioned officers and 30 enlisted men; in the Southern District, 7 commissioned officers and 22 enlisted men. On leave of absence, 1 commissioned officer; on furlough, 20 enlisted men; and on detached duty with the U. S. military telegraphs, 12 enlisted men. Twenty-six enlisted men have re-enlisted, 19 of whom have received furloughs for thirty-five days and have left the department. Second Lieut. John M. Head, Third New Hampshire Volunteers, acting signal officer, has been honorably discharged the service by paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 122, dated headquarters Department of the South, Hilton Head, S. C., March 24, 1864.

During the month the enlisted men have been armed with pistols. The detachment not being mounted, the sabers in the hands of the enlisted men have been turned in to the acting ordnance officer of the detachment. All Government property in the hands of the several officers in the detachment has been turned over to the acting quartermaster of the detachment. Nearly all the surplus articles and equipments which have been carried around by the



officers of the detachment have been collected, and the officers now or soon will have such equipments only as are needed in the performance of their duties.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
H. R. CLUM,  
*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the South.*

Maj. W. J. L. NICODEMUS,  
*In charge Signal Bureau, Washington, D. C.*

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HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., May 31, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition of the signal detachment in the Department of the South, and of its operations during the month ending this day :

The station at Pilot Town, mouth of Saint John's River, Fla., has been closed by direction of General Birney, then commanding in that district. The station had been used only to report vessels coming in or going out the river. We have no troops stationed at Pilot Town, and it had not been of much service. At the station at Yellow Bluff, vessels can be discovered as soon as they enter the mouth of the river ; consequently the arrival at the mouth of the river of any vessels is known at Jacksonville as soon as it was when the station at Pilot Town was open. With this one exception the stations remain the same as last month.

Previous to the 22d instant no active operations had taken place in this department. On that day a reconnaissance was made on James Island, in the Northern District. Some of the enemy's rifle-pits were taken by our troops, but the enemy having been re-enforced, our troops were obliged to withdraw from the island. Lieutenant Andrews, at the time, was absent by order of the general commanding the district. Lieut. C. Roberts, jr., however, with the assistance of Sergeants Colvin and Parsons, rendered good service. The accompanying map\* showing the tract of country in which the stations were located, and which was forwarded by Lieutenant Roberts with his report, shows the stations that were opened. Lieutenant Roberts was at the white house, Station No. 1 on map, on Folly Island, at which place General Schimmelfennig had his headquarters. Sergeant Parsons was at Station No. 2, on Cole's Island, and Sergeant Colvin at Station No. 3, on Long Island. Quite a number of important messages were transmitted. The general commanding being on Folly Island during the whole time, his communication with the front was had wholly by means of signals.

On the 25th instant, an expedition under General Birney left Hilton Head for the purpose of destroying the Jacksonborough bridge and some of the railroad between Charleston and Savannah. Lieutenants Fisher and Carrique accompanied the expedition as signal officers. Two of the transports by mistake went up the wrong river. One of them, loaded with troops and horses, got aground, was riddled by a rebel battery, and, to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy, was burned. The expedition then returned to Hilton Head, not having accomplished its object. The only signaling that

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\* Not found.

was done was in keeping up communications between the vessels. No other occasion offered, owing to the failure of the expedition.

All the enlisted men in this detachment who have been reported "absent without leave" have returned, and, by special orders from department headquarters, have been restored to duty without trial, they having given satisfactory reasons for their absence.

The stations now open are all in good working order. The officers and men are supplied with everything necessary to enable them to perform their duties with dispatch. A few good telescopes and marine glasses are needed. The necessary requisition for the same has been made, and when received, the detachment will be well equipped in every respect.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,

*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the South.*

Maj. W. J. L. NICODEMUS,

*In charge Signal Bureau, Washington, D. C.*

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HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., June 30, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition of the signal detachment in the Department of the South, and of its operations for the month ending this day:

There have been no active operations in this department during the month, and consequently all the work the detachment has been called upon to perform was to keep open the stations already in operation. The station at Pilot Town, mouth of Saint John's River, Fla., has been reopened by order of General Gordon, who at the time was commanding in that district. Two stations have been closed and two opened in the Northern District, on which preconcerted signals only were used. With these exceptions there has been no change in stations.

About the 1st of the month Sergt. John D. Colvin was stationed at Fort Strong, on Morris Island, with the several codes heretofore used by the rebels, for the purpose of reading the enemy's signals if possible. If not successful he was to take down the numbers for the purpose of deciphering them. For nearly two weeks nothing could be made out of their signals, but by persevering he finally succeeded in learning their codes, a copy of which was forwarded you on the 14th instant. Sergeant Colvin is still at Fort Strong, with instructions to telegraph all messages read by him to General Schimmelfennig, who is commanding in that district. Messages have been read by him from Beach Inlet, Battery Bee, and Fort Johnson. Lieutenant Roberts reports that the sergeant has also succeeded in deciphering all but three or four of the letters of the cipher as used by the enemy. All the old, worn-out, unserviceable, and surplus stores and equipments have been shipped, in accordance with your instructions, to Capt. Joseph H. Spencer, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, at Washington, D. C. I have to report Lieut. George Stroop as absent without leave since the 27th instant, at which time his leave expired; also the death of Private Norman F. Whitmore, who died in hospital at Jacksonville, Fla., on the 9th instant, of

chronic diarrhea. I have this day received instructions to have some officers and enlisted men ready to accompany an expedition that leaves this place to-morrow, destination unknown.

Nothing further of importance has transpired since my last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,

*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the South.*

Maj. W. J. L. NICODEMUS,

*In charge Signal Bureau, Washington, D. C.*

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HEADQUARTERS SIGNAL DETACHMENT,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 20, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the duty performed by the signal detachment in this department during the expedition which left Hilton Head on the 1st instant:

In accordance with instructions from department headquarters the following assignment of signal officers, with their flagmen, was made, namely: Lieut. Paul Brodie to Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch, Lieut. George A. Fisher to Brig. Gen. William Birney, and Lieut. Thomas H. Carrique to Brig. Gen. R. Saxton. By like instructions I accompanied the major-general commanding. Lieut. Charles Roberts, jr., was at the time on duty with Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig.

The expedition left Hilton Head on the afternoon of the 1st, about dusk, arrived off the mouth of the North Edisto River about 1 a. m. of the 2d, and as soon as it was light proceeded up the river to Seabrook Island, where the troops under General Hatch were disembarked. The balance, under the command of General Birney, remained on shipboard till near night, and then proceeded up the river to White Point and disembarked. On the morning of the 3d, General Birney advanced inland, skirmishing with the enemy for a distance of about 5 miles, when he found a deep creek about 10 rods wide, the bridge torn up, and the only crossing commanded by a six-gun battery. The general commanding in the mean time had proceeded up the Dawho River in the revenue cutter *Nemaha*, accompanied by the gun-boat *Geranium* and armed transport *Croton*. On arriving abreast General Birney's command the enemy opened fire on the vessels. The fire was returned by the vessels, and kept up for nearly two hours. General Birney, finding the enemy's position too strong to assault with the troops in his command, advised the withdrawal of the troops from that point, which was done under cover of the succeeding night, and, embarking on transports, proceeded next morning, July 4, up the Stono River to James Island, where they were landed a short distance above Legareville. The general commanding had the night before proceeded up the Stono River a short distance above that point. General Hatch in the mean time had crossed from Seabrook Island to John's Island, and on the 4th had arrived within a short distance of the Stono River. General Schimmelfennig had also made an attack on James Island, and on the 4th held his position on that island, with his headquarters about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Stono River.

Up to this time communication by signals was had between the different generals—at the time the expedition left Hilton Head, while lying off the mouth of the North Edisto River, while the troops were landing on Seabrook Island, at the landing of General Birney at White Point, during the engagement up the Dawho River,



while General Birney was disembarking on James Island, and with Admiral Dahlgren in Stono River. Communication was also opened on the 4th between Foster and General Schimmelfennig. From the 4th until the 10th instant, at which time the expedition, or a portion of it, returned to Hilton Head, communication was had almost constantly between the land and naval forces and between the different generals.

Stations were opened on land at the following-named points: At the white house and Legareville, on John's Island; at General Schimmelfennig's headquarters, and the advanced position of our troops on James Island on the 2d instant; at the battery on Cole's Island, at the battery on Long Island, and at the white house on Folly Island. The accompanying map\* will show the location of the different stations and lines of communication on land and a portion of those on the different vessels. Several of these stations were more or less under fire. The one marked A on the map was during all the time it was open subjected to a very severe fire. Sergt. W. Eddy, who was in charge of it, showed great courage and coolness by remaining at his station, sending and receiving messages until our troops withdrew from that portion of the island.

I have to report 1 enlisted man, Private T. F. Rymer, who participated in the assault on Fort Johnson on the morning of the 3d, as missing since that time. Private Rymer was sent by Colonel Gurney (without the knowledge of the chief signal officer in the Northern District) for the purpose of making signals of success or failure with the countersign lights.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,

*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the South.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 31, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition of the signal detachment in the Department of the South, and of the work performed by it for the month ending this day:

From the 1st until the 10th of the month all the officers and men, with the exception of those in the District of Florida, were with the expedition to James and John's Islands. The work performed by the detachment during the expedition was considerable and of good service to the different commanding officers in the expedition. For the particulars I would refer you to the copy of my report† to the commanding general of the department, forwarded on the 23d instant. An expedition under General Birney left Jacksonville, Fla., on the 23d instant. Lieutenants Vidal and Hatfield accompanied it. The result I have not learned, not having as yet received any reports from those officers. Judging from the nature of the country in that portion of the State, I think but little, if any, signaling could be done.

No other active operations have taken place in this department since my last report. The same lines that were open and in working order during the month of June last have been in operation

\* Not found.

† See p. 47.



during the present month. One outpost station has been temporarily closed. No other change of permanent stations has taken place. During the month Sergt. J. D. Colvin has succeeded in deciphering another code used by the rebels around Charleston. This code is used in transmitting all messages of importance. He is now reading all the rebel messages transmitted within view of Fort Strong. The information thus gained from the enemy is frequently of great importance; so much so, that General Foster has recommended Sergeant Colvin for promotion for the services rendered by him in that particular.

The resignation of Lieut. W. S. Andrews and the removal of Lieut. Paul Brodie from this detachment will leave too few signal officers in this department. I think if two second lieutenants could be ordered here the detachment would be sufficiently large to perform all the work required of it. As it now is, so long as no active operations take place the detachment is large enough, but at other times there are not a sufficient number of officers. The signal equipments that were shipped for this place in May last have not yet been received. Lieutenant Fisher has written to the quartermaster in New York in reference to them; still nothing has been heard either from the quartermaster or equipments. The glasses are very much needed. When these equipments are received the detachment will be well supplied with everything requisite to enable it to perform any duty required of it.

On the 21st, the tower on Morris Island was blown down and Private P. C. Dick, who was on watch at the time, severely injured; the surgeons, however, think not seriously. The tower will be rebuilt at once. Private T. F. Rymer, who has been missing since the assault on Fort Johnson on the 3d instant, has not been heard from other than by an intercepted message from Fort Johnson to Charleston, transmitted soon after the assault. In the message it stated that "one signal corps" had been captured. Lieut. George Stroop, acting signal officer, returned to this department on the 15th instant and reported for duty, and Privates Burnell and Barrows on the 21st and reported for duty. There is but 1 enlisted man, Private T. A. Rhodes, at present absent on furlough.

Nothing further of importance has transpired in this detachment since my last monthly report.

H. R. CLUM,

*Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the South.*

Lieut. Col. W. J. L. NICODEMUS,

*In charge of Signal Bureau, Washington, D. C.*

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No. 6.

*Report of Lieut. George A. Fisher, Signal Officer, of operations July 1-11.*

HEADQUARTERS SIGNAL CORPS, U. S. ARMY,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 14, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of duty performed during the expedition which left Hilton Head July 1, 1864:

In obedience to Special Orders, No. 17, headquarters Signal Detachment, Department of the South, I reported to Brig. Gen. Will-

iam Birney on board steamer N. P. Banks. We left Hilton Head soon after dark, accompanied by the steamers Canonicus and Mary A. Boardman, and proceeded out to sea past the light-ship, and followed the rest of the expedition, which had preceded us. After sailing in a southeasterly direction for thirty minutes all lights were extinguished, and we immediately shaped our course northwest and arrived off North Edisto about daylight morning of July 2. After crossing the bar we moved up the river and took a position near the rest of the fleet and anchored in the river, while the troops of General Hatch's command were landing on Seabrook Island. The following are messages transmitted and received :

Captain MOORE :

Have the troops taken off the steamer Mary A. Boardman and placed on some other boat immediately.

BIRNEY,  
*General.*

General BIRNEY :

Will send the Edwin Lewis as soon as I can get her out.

MOORE,  
*Captain.*

General BIRNEY :

There are gang-planks, spikes, hand-saws, axes, and hatchets on board Edwin Lewis. Shall I leave them for you?

MOORE,  
*Captain.*

General BIRNEY :

I have five boats for you. How would you like them distributed?

FOSTER,  
*General.*

General FOSTER :

I would like them here. At Rantowles bridge there is a fort with heavy guns. As General Hatch has no artillery to cover my assault, shall I attack the fort?

BIRNEY,  
*General.*

At high tide on the afternoon of July 2, General Birney gave orders for the steamer N. P. Banks, followed by steamers Canonicus and Edwin Lewis, to move up the river. As soon as we had got under way the gun-boats Dai Ching, Geranium, and U. S. Coast Survey steamer Vixen and revenue cutter Nemaha, with General Foster on board, passed us and proceeded up to White Point and took position to cover our landing. The following are messages received and transmitted :

General BIRNEY :

Come up and land troops. Anchor with the vessels as near the shore as possible and land troops.

FOSTER,  
*General.*

\_\_\_\_\_ :

Rebel cavalry can be seen in woods ahead of Canonicus.

\_\_\_\_\_ :

How many?

\_\_\_\_\_ :

! Only a picket station.

General BIRNEY :

Use all your boats in landing troops ; those of the Canonicus also.

FOSTER,  
*General.*

Troops were all landed during the night, and advanced a mile and at half to Legaré's plantation, where we remained until daylight, July 3, when we advanced, skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry for about 5 miles, when they retreated across the bridge, taking it up behind them. Our lines were immediately advanced to the bank of the creek and attempt made to cross. I was ordered by General Birney to the left of the line to communicate with the fleet and General Foster. The following are the messages received and transmitted :

Anything to communicate?

We have found a battery of rifled guns. We are trying to flank it.

How is it going?

General FOSTER :

They have a squadron of cavalry, with a light battery, on the other side of deep creek ; only approach commanded. We are trying to flank them. Your shells are bursting in our lines. Lengthen your fuses. Our whole force is on right side of road. Shall cross if possible. All bridges destroyed. Ammunition most gone for howitzers. Our skirmishers are as near as we can get. Two wounded.

BIRNEY,  
*General.*

General FOSTER :

We have a boat and will cross creek as soon as possible.

BIRNEY,  
*General.*

General BIRNEY :

Cross if possible.

FOSTER,  
*General.*

General FOSTER :

I think I shall be ready to storm the battery by 10 o'clock. Troops are thrown to the right seeking a place to cross.

BIRNEY,  
*General.*

General FOSTER :

Crossing impossible, except directly in face of battery, six guns ; creek 10 rods wide, mostly swamp ; boats useless ; could not trust these troops to make the assault. We are on an island and cannot flank. Advise the withdrawal from this point.

BIRNEY,  
*General.*

General BIRNEY :

Keep your present position and do all you can all day. You will withdraw under cover of the night. I will place the gun-boats to cover your embarkation.

FOSTER,  
*General.*

We retained our position until after day, when the troops were silently withdrawn and were all embarked by 1 o'clock a. m., July 4, and we moved from the river inside the bar. At daylight crossed the bar and proceeded to Stono River and moved up the river opposite James Island, July 4, 1864.

General BIRNEY :

Land your troops as fast as possible, using all your boats, and join General Schimmelfennig.

FOSTER,  
*General.*

The troops were immediately landed on James Island and were placed in the second line of intrenchments. I proceeded to signal station at General Schimmelfennig's headquarters and assisted Lieutenant Roberts.

On the 5th of July, I received orders from you to have communication opened with Lieutenant Carrique, with General Saxton, on John's Island. On the 6th instant, I was relieved by General Birney from signal duty, he having been ordered to Florida. Being unable to report to you, as you had gone to Hilton Head with General Foster, I used every effort to open communication with the forces on John's Island and with the fleet and general commanding. Every assistance was rendered me which I asked for, and I was thus enabled, by cutting down a large portion of the woods, to open communication with the forces on John's Island and also with the fleet in Stono River. I remained with General Schimmelfennig until the evening of the 10th, when we evacuated James Island and proceeded to Folly Island, where I found Lieutenants Brodie and Carrique with their parties, waiting transportation to Hilton Head. I immediately took charge of their horses, &c., and they were enabled to proceed to Hilton Head on the 11th. Same night I obtained transportation for horses and men and reached Hilton Head morning of July 12, 1864.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. A. FISHER,

*First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.*

Capt. H. R. CLUM,

*Chief Signal Officer.*

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No. 7.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Alexander Schimmelfennig, U. S. Army, commanding Northern District, of operations April 28-September 2.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., May 5, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: Since the visit of Brigadier-General Hatch to this district (Thursday, April 28) nothing of importance has occurred. I have to report as follows:

No prisoners have been made, no deserters come in. All the information received is from the outposts.

On Sullivan's Island small working parties appear from time to time as usual. A battalion has been seen drilling as heretofore. The batteries fired an occasional shot at Morris Island, and last night they opened from Sullivan's and James Island, firing 20 or 25 shots, but without effect.

*Fort Sumter.*—The bombardment has been confined to shelling from our mortars at irregular intervals, and at the rate of about 4 an hour; occasionally by volleys from all the mortars. About one-half of the shells explode in or immediately over the fort. The result within the fort is not known, but the steamers have discontinued to ply between the city and Sumter at night. This firing



has been ordered to prevent the enemy from carrying on the work of repair, which they have been doing to a considerable extent during the past month. In Charleston Harbor the enemy shows more life than usual. They maneuver with their rams in the rear of Castle Pinckney, in Cooper River, and practice with their guns. The firing into the city is continued at the rate of 2 or 3 shots in twenty-four hours, at irregular intervals and in different directions.

On James Island, in front of Long Island, and Black Island, viz, the line from John's Island to Secessionville, the enemy, it appears to me, has reduced his forces, or at least shows less than formerly. To ascertain the facts and find out the weak points, I have ordered the boat infantry to drive the enemy's boats out of the creeks and marsh between the two lines. I have also ordered the commander of Morris Island to take possession of a block-house in that marsh about midway between the fort on Black Island and Secessionville, and the commander of the outposts on Long Island to advance a post three-fourths of a mile in front of his outpost, and three-fourths of a mile from Secessionville, on a strip of land in the marsh studded with high trees.

Besides this I will adopt other measures. In front of Cole's Island and on James Island the enemy shows his usual strength and thick, double line of outposts. I have ordered the commander of Folly Island to take possession of Battery Island and make a lodgment there. As regards John's Island nothing has been done on our part, and we have no information of the enemy. Occasionally a shot has been fired from the gun-boats into Legareville, which has effectually prevented the enemy from re-establishing their pickets and lookouts there.

On Kiawah Island I have taken the guns from the forts, armed the large fort with rockets, and reduced the garrison to an outpost of 40 men.

As deserters of the Forty-first New York Volunteers had probably informed the enemy of these facts, their cavalry came up to our outposts yesterday. I therefore shall remove the negroes from the Vanderhost farm to-day, under the protection of a party now following up the enemy on Kiawah Island. The command has been well supplied with rations, but no hay has been received for more than a fortnight, and the horses are now without it. The health of the troops in the district is good, with the exception of some of the colored regiments. From an investigation made, it appears to me that the surgeons excuse more men from duty than they should, and I have given the necessary orders in that respect. The Massachusetts colored regiments are dissatisfied and difficult to manage, having received no pay for more than a year.

I beg to call the general's attention to the fact that at this district about 500 men will have served out their time at the end of this or the beginning of next month. As will be seen by orders annexed, I have divided the district into two posts, at Morris Island and the south end of Folly Island, respectively. In order to keep up communication with Long Island, I shall leave a garrison of 40 men in a closed work at Pawnee Landing, and the same number in a similar work at the white house.

Patrols will be kept up between the works. Besides this, I very much need facilities for mounting a small force of infantry for the purpose of patrolling the whole of Folly Island and also Kiawah, as well as occasionally for offensive purposes. I would therefore

respectfully beg the brigadier-general commanding to approve a requisition by my quartermaster, Captain Cushing, for 80 horses and equipments complete, for mounting infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., May 9, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: Nothing of special interest has occurred within the command since my last report, dated the 5th instant. The disposition of my own troops remains unaltered, with the exception of the arrival on the 6th instant of the Thirty-second Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry, numbering 752 enlisted men, and of a company of engineers under Captain McKenna. The Thirty-second U. S. Colored Regiment was assigned to the post of Morris Island, but I have to-day ordered the left wing over to this island, where such arrangements have been made by the post commander that they will have half their time for drill and the other half to do fatigue duty on the new works to be built. The force and disposition of the enemy on my front seems to remain the same, except that a new camp is reported as having been established behind Secessionville.

*Fort Sumter.*—The occasional throwing of mortar shells into Fort Sumter, sometimes by volley, is still continued, with the view of preventing the work of repair. Guns have been mounted bearing on the sea face of Sumter. Within the last few days a new battery is being erected by the enemy near Mount Pleasant.

*Charleston Harbor.*—On the morning of the 5th instant, a small river steamer was discovered aground about 2 miles below Mount Pleasant Landing, and about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Fort Putnam. She was fired at from our batteries, but the distance was too great for very good practice. Several shots struck her, but not sufficient to disable her, and on the morning of the 6th she was no longer to be seen.

*Morris Island.*—A 100-pounder Parrott gun in Battery Chatfield burst on the afternoon of the 5th instant, at the second round. Elevation when fired, 18 degrees. No casualties occurred. Twelve contrabands, field hands from Christ Church Parish, 7 miles from Charleston, came into our lines at Fort Putnam on the morning of the 7th instant. Colonel Gurney's report of these refugees will be herewith forwarded. I have not yet examined them myself.

*James Island.*—At about 8.30 a. m. of the 8th instant, the enemy's batteries on James Island, near Secessionville, opened fire on Long Island. They were replied to by one gun from Long Island, and also by Fort Greene. The firing lasted about three-quarters of an hour, without any casualties on our side.

*Kiawah Island.*—A party of 100 men was sent out on Kiawah Island the 5th instant, reaching Vanderhost's plantation at day-break, patrolling the island during the day, and returning at night. They did not meet the enemy. While this party was out, the negroes at Vanderhost's plantation (8, old and young) were allowed to move within our lines, where they are now established. With

the above exceptions, no movements have been made on our part or that of the enemy. The new battery to be erected near white house is commenced.

The work of putting the oyster-shell fort on Cole's Island in a state of defense is going on. I have directed the bomb-proofs to be enlarged in Fort Putnam and Battery Chatfield. The health of the troops is good with the exception of the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Massachusetts (colored) Regiments.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the South.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., May 13, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred within this district since my last communication. The enemy has kept quiet and I myself postponed small operations in order to hold my force in readiness, for reasons stated in a letter to the general commanding the department. The enemy has continued to fire from Secessionville on the pickets lately advanced to Pine Island, in front of Long Island, and his fire has been answered. We have now an idea of the armament of his batteries at Secessionville, which is of inferior description. Our fire into Charleston is the same as heretofore; so also on Sumter, with the exception that the 100-pounder recently mounted has been brought to bear on the sea front, where the enemy's guns are supposed to be. The enemy has fired at various times, and heavily, at Fort Putnam and Battery Chatfield from Moultrie and Simkins, and as usual, imitating our fire, now use mortars.

*Morris Island.*—On the 11th instant, a 30-pounder Parrott from Fort Putnam, used for firing at the city, burst. I have given orders that some of the embrasures in various batteries on Morris Island be so arranged that the guns shall bear on Fort Johnson as well as on Fort Sumter and Sullivan's Island.

On the night of the 11th–12th instant, 7 deserters from Fort Johnson, coming over in a boat, were met and brought in by our boat infantry. The information received from them I have made the subject of another communication.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., May 16, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report as follows with regard to operations and occurrences within this command since my last report of May 13:

In order to test the information given by deserters I instructed my command to embrace any opportunity presented along our lines for



taking prisoners from the enemy. An attempt to this effect by the One hundred and third New York Volunteers, from Long Island, proved highly successful. They crossed Secessionville Creek from the fort on Long Island by boat, advanced through the marsh on James Island, and captured a picket-post of 5 men. These men report the news in the Charleston papers of the 12th to be that Meade's army was thrown back by Lee, but that Meade had received re-enforcements and made a stand south of the Rappahannock. The prisoners are of the Second South Carolina Artillery Regiment, and, having been about more on James Island than the deserters from Fort Johnson, know more with regard to the troops remaining there. They represent the force of the enemy as over six regiments of infantry, among whom is Colquitt's (Georgia) brigade, six light batteries, about 3,000 men of the heavy artillery (being the First and Second Regiments South Carolina Artillery and Lucas' battalion), and 400 men with the siege train. This does not include troops on John's Island and in the vicinity of Adams' Run nor the cadets in Charleston City. The prisoners stated that the enemy estimated our force here to be about 5,000.

*Morris Island.*—On the 13th instant, Fort Putnam and Battery Chatfield and the columbiad battery fired 240 shells at Fort Sumter, of which 227 were good, striking the point fired at. Two casemates were opened, and a large portion of the new parapets tumbled into the water. During the night mortar shells were fired into Sumter, at intervals, to prevent working parties from repairing damages done. Two of our monitors moved up at 11 a. m., and continued their fire until 6 p. m. The enemy directed all his fire at the monitors, without apparently doing them any serious damage.

On the 14th instant, we fired 308 shells at Fort Sumter from Fort Putnam and Battery Chatfield. The injury to the sea face of the fort was still further continued, and we knocked down the south portion of the Moultrie face. It will require perhaps one or two days' more firing to be certain that the guns which they had again mounted in Fort Sumter are unserviceable. Two monitors again took part in the action, but this day the enemy's fire was directed at our batteries on Morris Island. Four hundred and fifty shells were thrown around our forts and batteries, doing some damage to the traverses and parapets. No casualties occurred. The enemy opened from all his batteries on Sullivan's and James Islands, with the exception of Johnson. On Sullivan's Island he displayed several batteries of which we were before ignorant, and which I shall have duly noted on the map. No changes have taken place in the number or disposition of troops in my command.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., May 21, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report as follows since my last communication:

On the 16th instant, we fired 49 shells at Fort Sumter, and the enemy fired 70 shells at our batteries. Two monitors took part in



the action from 10 a. m. until noon. The enemy's batteries on Sullivan's Island opened on the monitors with 200-pounder rifles and columbiads, and badly damaged a pilot-house of one of the monitors.

On the 17th instant, we fired 50 shells at Sumter. The enemy did not reply. I consider the object in view in the late bombardment of Sumter as attained. The sea front has been so knocked down by our fire and that of the monitors that the batteries recently established there must be entirely unserviceable if not buried under the ruins. The repairs recently carried on by the enemy in the fort have again been overthrown; besides that we have now the advantage of knowing the armament of all the enemy's batteries capable of bearing on Forts Putnam, Chatfield, and Strong. The armament of Battery Bee is very effective (columbiad guns of 200 pounds and over, rifled and banded). The new battery at Mount Pleasant opened with one columbiad. The mortar batteries on James Island and several batteries on Sullivan's Island showed a very inferior armament, most of their shells not reaching our lines.

I am happy to be able to report the above results without any loss of life on our part, and that the enemy expended more ammunition in attempting to stop our fire than we did during the whole bombardment. Our only loss is the bursting of six guns. The enemy's loss is not known, but from the fact that the Charleston papers give no particulars, while formerly they used to be very minute in their accounts of casualties or in the statement that none had occurred, I conclude that the enemy has suffered more than he likes to confess.

It appears from the Charleston papers (herewith inclosed) that our fire at the city is not as effective as formerly. Banks, insurance companies, and offices are advertised as being open in the lower part of the city during business hours. Ever since I have taken permanent command of this district it has been my aim to force the enemy to keep a larger force than my own on my front, this being my only means of co-operating with the more important movements of our armies in Virginia. By minor operations, heretofore reported, and as stated hereafter, I have succeeded in this up to yesterday.

On the 17th instant, I ordered a reconnaissance up Stono River, with the intention of having the party land on John's Island, 2 miles above Legareville, drive in the enemy's outpost, and destroy their boats. This, however, did not succeed, as the place was strongly guarded and the shells of the gun-boats failed to drive the enemy back. The outposts here are of a Virginia regiment, and were stronger on that day than ever before. Our boats frequently patrol, both by day and night, the creeks and marshes between Secessionville and Battery Simkins, and have been repeatedly fired upon. They have driven the enemy's boats out of these waters entirely. The boat infantry, under Captain Gurney, patrols around Sumter and between Sumter and Johnson's Point. They have not yet met the enemy's boats, but have been fired upon from the howitzers at Sumter, and have found the rebel iron-clad on guard every night in rear of Johnson as reported by deserters.

Desiring to compare our good news from the North with the rebel accounts, I instructed my pickets to shout over to them that they had got badly whipped, and see what they would say. In reply they sent over a flag of truce with some letters and papers of the

18th, and were anxious to get our news and papers. They were given a Herald of the 14th. It is evident from the annexed Charleston paper of the 18th that they had no later news from Lee than ours, and that communication between Richmond and Petersburg, as well as between Lee and Richmond, must be cut off.

Outpost reports of yesterday and to-day show that last night and the night before considerable moving took place on James Island, and the railroad was very active. Wagon trains have been moving, locomotive whistles and bells heard, and there is every indication that the enemy is withdrawing from my front in considerable numbers. In view of these facts, I have given the annexed instructions (A and B\*) to my post commanders and shall report the result without delay. If the enemy has merely changed without diminishing the troops on my front, I consider that it will be necessary, if he is to be retained there, to strike more decisive blows than heretofore. If he has withdrawn, there of course remains nothing for us but to follow up the advantage, the method of doing which I have made the subject of another communication to the general commanding.

I regret to be obliged to report that two bounty substitutes, Forty-first New York Volunteers, have again deserted to the enemy, even after the receipt of our good news. They were no doubt supported in their desertion by the picket-posts on their right and left, who have all been arrested. As the conscripts and substitutes of this regiment have proved very unreliable and dangerous to my command I have given orders that they shall be formed into a working battalion, and employed only in doing fatigue duty under guard on the fortifications.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,

*Folly Island, S. C., May 23, 1864.*

SIR: A general reconnaissance along my lines took place during the night of the 21st, 22d, and during the day yesterday. The enemy was found at Sumter ready to receive us, with a number of men on the walls and on the dock and several row-boats in the rear of the fort. It appears, therefore, that the garrison at Sumter has not been reduced. The party sent out in boats to land between Secessionville and Battery Simkins returned without accomplishing anything.

On Long Island, Major Morrison, of the One hundred and third New York Volunteers, with 150 men of his regiment, under command of Captain Quentin, and 250 men of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Colored Regiment, crossed over to Tiger Island at night, waded through the marsh to James Island, and attacked the enemy early yesterday morning (the 22d). They drove the enemy's pickets, about 120 men, far to the north of Battery Wright.

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\* See Schauffler and Dean to Gilsa, May 21, Part II.

During this time a detachment of the Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers and Forty-first New York Volunteers repaired the bridges from Cole's Island to James Island and crossed over, the Rocket Battery on Cole's Island and the guns of the fort at Long Island supporting the movement. At Battery Wright Major Morrison halted his command, gave nine cheers for the Union, and awaited my further orders. Colonel von Gilsa directed these movements from Cole's Island.

The enemy showed in the first part of the engagement about 400 to 500 infantry, and was re-enforced about noon by about 200 more infantry and a light battery of four pieces.

During the afternoon columns of dust on the road showed plainly that the enemy was advancing with considerable force against our troops on James Island, and, as my object was accomplished, I gave orders to retire. Had I known, general, your intentions in regard to another movement it would have been an easy matter for me to hold part of James Island, and thus to keep a most threatening attitude against the enemy.

Last evening three steamer loads of troops were taken across from Charleston to James Island. It is estimated by those who saw them that they took over from 1,200 to 1,500 men. I hope by demonstrating and attacking the enemy again to-day to keep those troops on James Island. The annexed order will show you what I am about to do. Besides this, Colonel Gurney, commanding Morris Island, is ordered to drag boats over the marsh in the direction of Sumter to lead the enemy to believe we are making preparations for an attack on the fort.

None of the parties sent out on the night of the 21st succeeded in making prisoners. On John's Island the enemy retired, and my troops met only cavalry.

My loss on the 22d was, wounded, 11.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,  
A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Brig. Gen. J. P. HATCH,  
*Commanding Department of the South.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., May 28, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I respectfully report that, from the detailed reports sent in by the different commanders relative to the demonstration on the 22d and 23d instant, it is known that the enemy left 2 dead on the ground when they retired; also that his ambulances were in motion during the forenoon of the 22d and the afternoon of the 23d. The Seventy-fourth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers captured 1 horse, slightly wounded, and brought him over from James Island to Cole's Island.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., May 28, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred within the district since my last.

The demonstration Monday afternoon, the 23d instant, and during the following night, was made strictly in accordance with the orders which I had the honor to forward on the 23d to the general commanding the department. The gun-boats in Stono Inlet, under command of Captain Duncan and Captain Gamble, co-operated with me in the most satisfactory manner, proceeding up the river as far as the bend,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Legareville.

The sham attack on the 22d had induced the enemy considerably to strengthen his outposts in front of Cole's Island, and to have field pieces with them.

As will be seen from the map, the battery on Long Island and the gun-boats on Stono River north of Legareville take the enemy on the southwestern part of James Island entirely in flank and rear; besides this, the enemy received the fire of the rockets and two howitzers in front. In consequence our fire created considerable havoc among them, driving them from one piece of woods to the other. It was probably with the view of drawing the fire of our gun-boats to that point that the enemy on the 23d for the first time opened fire from Battery Pringle. Toward evening the transfer of the troops from Long to Tiger Island, and the disembarking of troops on Battery Island, commenced. During the early part of the night the boat howitzer on Secessionville Creek continued to fire from different positions. The enemy kept up a signaling through the whole night from James Island to Charleston.

I am satisfied that the sham attack of the 22d, on James Island, and the demonstration of the 23d, have produced the desired result, viz, to oblige the enemy to keep a larger force than my own on my front. Their pickets have in some cases been observed to be materially strengthened; more tents are visible on James Island than before, and a greater number of bathers and strollers are to be seen around Fort Johnson and at other points. Our batteries on Morris Island have thrown the usual number of shells into the city and Fort Sumter. The firing into the city has been made more lively during business hours, some 30 shots being thrown in between 9 a. m. and 2 p. m.

On the 26th instant, the enemy opened a new battery, situated to his right and rear of Fort Johnson; the guns are rifled and throw 6-inch projectiles. From this battery and Simkins 45 shells were fired at Fort Putnam on the 26th, all of which burst in and around the fort. The fire was returned by our guns without loss on our side. The enemy has also shown more fatigue parties than usual around Forts Johnson and Moultrie and Battery Simkins. Fort Sumter has been considerably repaired since our last bombardment, and Castle Pinckney is being strengthened by having a wall of sand built up around it from the outside.

As to the movements of the enemy within the harbor, I have nothing unusual to communicate. I have had no prisoners or deserters since my last report. There was some cheering heard at Secessionville on the —, but the outposts in front of Cole's Island keep as quiet and uncommunicative as before. In regard to the fort at the white house, I have to report that within a few days it will be sufficiently advanced in its structure to be garrisoned by infantry.



On the 23d instant, orders were given to Colonel von Gilsa, commanding post, to employ all his available men on this work, and the department order with regard to working at night will at once be carried into effect. I do not consider it of very great importance to arm this fort with artillery before it is fully completed, as a mortar schooner, armed also with rifled guns, is permanently stationed at the white house, and as the gun-boats in Stono Inlet can at any stage of the tide go up Folly River to Pawnee Landing, and with their heavy batteries sweep the marsh to the north and Folly Island to the south; whatever force of the enemy can step in on Folly Island during one night, passing our pickets hidden in boats, we can readily drive out the next day and take them prisoners. On the other hand, it seems to me of the highest importance to avoid the possibility of one of our guns falling into the hands of the enemy and being used against our gun-boats. In regard to the old oyster-shell fort on Cole's Island, I have to report that it is in repair and will be armed to-day. I am glad to be able to report that the public property, with the exception of the buildings, has all been removed from the former post at Pawnee Landing to Stono Inlet or Morris Island, and that I am thus enabled considerably to reduce the details for outpost duty and economize in land transportation.

All the necessary orders have been given to comply with the order from your headquarters with regard to the formation of a company of mounted infantry. I will report more specifically on this in my next, after seeing the post commander.

The health of the command, as will be seen from the report of the medical director, is good, the colored regiments having improved very fast. No casualties occurred since my last.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., June 3, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that nothing of importance has occurred within this command since my last report.

On the night of the 31st ultimo to the 1st instant, 2 contrabands came into our lines. They are servants of officers in the First C. S. Artillery. They left Johnson's Point and made their way through the marsh between Batteries Simkins and Cheves, swam the creek, and met our pickets near the Swamp Angel. They give no general information except that there is no cheering in the enemy's camps and that the officers are silent within hearing of their men in regard to the operations now going on in Virginia. One of these contrabands was in Charleston on Sunday last and saw no other troops than one or two companies of artillery and the cadets. They were never allowed to leave camp and consequently know but little in regard to the enemy's forces on James Island. They report General Taliaferro still commanding the artillery as before reported, but instead of the Georgia infantry, one regiment of cavalry. This cavalry has also been reported to me by our outposts as doing picket duty in front of our lines and on Stono River,

In regard to the sham attack on James Island, on the 22d and 23d of May, the contrabands state that the enemy sent, with the exception of a guard of 20 men, every available man from Johnson's Point to the support of his outposts; that the three steamer loads of troops which were reported as being sent over from Charleston to James Island, on the afternoon of the 22d, consisted of armed citizens.

Yesterday and to-day 100 men patrolled Kiawah Island and found the enemy's cavalry pickets on Seabrook Island posted as usual, but dressed partly in civilians' dress. There were evidences that the enemy's cavalry patrols had been up Kiawah Island as far as Vanderhost's farm. On the morning of the 1st, a patrol of 40 men went over the southwest part of John's Island as far as 3 miles west of Legareville. They met the enemy's pickets in the usual force, not 30 cavalrymen. The enemy's river boats are now daily reported as being seen on Stono River above Battery Tynes and the bridge formerly mentioned. It appears to me that these steamers are only used for bringing down provisions, and one kept in Stono River only to convey troops from James to John's Island and vice versa, the bridge not yet being passable. I keep two rocket-boats in ambush every night in case these steamers should come farther down the river, as they were reported by the navy to have done one night.

It seems that the appearance of my boats farther up in the harbor of Charleston has caused the enemy to establish a second line of picket-boats between Charleston, Castle Pinckney, and Mount Pleasant. In accordance with the instructions of the major-general commanding department the fire into the city of Charleston and at Fort Sumter has been considerably increased. On the 2d instant, a large working party at Fort Moultrie was dispersed by our guns. Battery Simkins then opened and threw 12 shells into Fort Putnam. It was replied to and silenced by our batteries.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., June 8, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that nothing of importance has occurred since my last report. No information has been received in regard to the enemy's movements and strength except by my outposts. The cavalry regiment reported in my last seems to have left James Island. The firing at the city and at Sumter has been kept up in accordance with instructions received from the major-general commanding department. The enemy have answered from Sullivan's and James Islands occasionally. The firing from Long Island at the Secessionville batteries, and vice versa, has been quite lively during the last few days. The enemy tries to fill up a gap between two of his batteries at Secessionville, which our battery on Long Island prevents him from doing. The enemy now uses a 100-pounder Whitworth gun in place of a 64-pounder, which was dismounted by our 200-pounder Parrotts.

The enemy's steamers on Stono River continue to ply about very frequently. It seems that they come down from Charleston Harbor

by way of James Creek and Newton's Cut. Two reports came in yesterday evening that one of the steamers had something like a large torpedo-boat or small ram in tow. These reports have not been confirmed by reports from other parts of the outposts, which only mention the steamer, but I have nevertheless ordered the picket-boats farther up the Stono, and to have ropes drawn across from the piles to the Cole's Island shore; also to have a calcium light established on the fort at the left of our outposts on Cole's Island. By these means I hope to prevent any torpedo-boats from coming down unnoticed, or without being attacked by my own and the navy's picket-boats. The gun-boats will go up to the Stono in a few days, and I will then land parties to search the John's Island shore. In regard to Kiawah River, a larger party should go up again as far as Haulover Cut. This will be done as soon as the men can be spared from this district.

I have the honor and pleasure to report the full destruction of one of the enemy's supply steamers by our artillery on Morris Island, and annex a full report of this affair made by Lieutenant-Colonel Ames, Third Rhode Island Artillery, chief of artillery of this district. The Ironsides has left the blockading fleet, and the rebel iron-clads have since then been moving about more than heretofore in the harbor. I have ordered over to Morris Island the battalion of the Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops which was at the post of Folly Island, with a view to completing the bomb-proofs at Putnam and Chatfield as soon as possible. One officer and 30 enlisted men (cavalry) have reported here, and are now doing patrol duty on Folly Island.

It is ascertained that Light-House Creek has 18 feet of water at high tide, but a bar closes up the creek near the harbor. I have ordered a large plank walk over the marsh, west of Morris Island, to be relaid. This plank walk leads from the Swamp Angel to the Light-House Creek, and was formerly used by the enemy to pass from James to Morris Island. This pass will give me full control over Light-House Creek, and enable my scout-boats to risk more and go nearer the enemy's batteries.

\* The state of health of this command remains good up to this time, but I fear that scurvy will break out if vegetables are not more frequently supplied. Some indications of this disease have already appeared on Morris Island. I have written on this subject to the Sanitary Commission, and have ordered my commissary (Captain Leiby) to procure a larger supply either from the Government or by private means. I beg once more to call the attention of the major-general commanding the department to the fact that I am without a medical director.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., June 10, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired since my last communication. The enemy has kept



very quiet, and I have done the same, with the special view of forwarding the work on the bomb-proofs on Morris Island. This work, as well as that on the fort at white house on this island, is progressing very favorably. I have given orders for two booms to be placed on Stono River from the piles just above Legareville to the shores, respectively, of James and John's Islands. They will be capable of being opened for the passage of our gun-boats. One of these booms will be ready and laid next week, and the other a few days after.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,

*Folly Island, S. C., June 15, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that yesterday evening I received a communication, by flag of truce, from General Ripley, commanding in Charleston, and to the effect that 5 generals and 45 field officers of the U. S. Army, prisoners of war, were kept under the fire of our guns in the city of Charleston. I have made this matter the subject of another communication.\* I have the honor to forward with this report three newspapers, two received by flag of truce and one from the fleet.

From Morris Island our batteries have kept up the usual average of firing into the city and at Fort Sumter. The enemy has thrown an occasional shot from Moultrie. The enemy has shown considerable activity in carrying on engineer work on various parts of his lines, and especially around Secessionville. Here he has been constructing bomb-proofs, surrounding his old batteries with obstructions, and beginning to erect some new work. He has already mounted one or two new guns, and on the 12th instant opened on Long Island with six heavy guns. This fire was replied to and silenced from Long Island and Forts Greene and Purviance. I have ordered two more 30-pounder Parrotts to be mounted on Long Island, temporarily, to attract the enemy's attention there.

On the 10th instant, 4 rebel deserters, of the First South Carolina Heavy Artillery, left Sullivan's Island in a boat and succeeded in reaching our navy. They were forwarded to me by the admiral for examination. Their testimony has been made the subject of another communication. I shall ask the admiral to retain these men here, as their services may be of great use to us. The oyster-shell fort on Cole's Island occasionally throws a few shells at Legareville, causing some disturbance to the enemy's cavalry pickets there. This is done more to drill the new gunners than for any other purpose. The engineer work on the bomb-proofs on Morris Island has progressed as favorably as the weather would permit. The battery at white house has advanced slowly, owing to the changes in troops, some regiments being under marching orders, and others arriving. The regular details were interrupted, but have now again been resumed.

From various indications the enemy's numbers seem to have been increased lately on James Island. For three nights wagon trains

\* See Part II, p. 131.



were heard moving and hammering going on. Some new camps have appeared, and a band been playing near Secessionville.

The following changes have taken place in the troops of my command since my last report: On the 12th instant the Thirty-third Regiment U. S. Colored Troops arrived here, and was assigned to the post of Morris Island. On the 14th instant the Fifty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers arrived here to relieve the Forty-first Regiment New York Volunteers, which has embarked this day for Hilton Head. The Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers remains on Folly Island, according to a verbal order received from the major-general commanding. The Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops are kept at Morris Island until further orders.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER, *A. A. G.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,

*Folly Island, S. C., June 16, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that since my last report nothing of especial importance has occurred. Our fire upon the city has been kept up as usual, and that of the enemy has been desultory. Yesterday afternoon, the enemy being observed at work upon their fortifications near Secessionville, Forts Greene and Purviance and Long Island opened upon them with good effect. Batteries Tynes and Pringle fired in the direction of our outposts upon Cole's Island, but the shots fell short.

Between 5 and 6 o'clock this p. m. the enemy opened fire from all their batteries upon Sullivan's and James Islands, and also from Fort Ripley, Castle Pinckney, the city batteries, and from the rams. They fired a number of blank cartridges and some shot and shell at our works. The chief of artillery of the district estimates the number of shots fired at about 400. I am at a loss to account for this demonstration unless it was made wholly for effect, as the firing was too irregular for salutes. From all the outposts new camps and enlargement of old camps are reported upon James Island, and I am satisfied that the enemy has received re-enforcements, but of what they consist I have not as yet been able to ascertain. The boom to be placed across Stono River is nearly completed, and I am fully prepared for any demonstration the enemy may make in that direction. A patrol of infantry and cavalry sent out last night traversed the whole of Kiawah Island and returned this afternoon. No traces of the enemy were found, except the track of a small cavalry patrol, which had been as far up as the sugar plantation. The works at Haulover Cut and the sentries thereon were plainly seen from the lower end of Kiawah. No force was observed from Seabrook Island. This patrol was sent out not only to scour the island but to cover a navy schooner which had gone ashore on the beach during the late storm. She has since been got off.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER, *A. A. G.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Light-House Inlet, S. C., June 21, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that nothing of especial interest has occurred within this command since my last report. Firing at the city and at Fort Sumter has been carried on as usual. Since the firing along the entire rebel line, reported in my last, they have been unusually quiet. On James Island the enemy has continued to show new camps, at the same time partly breaking up the old ones. He has been seen moving heavy guns, although from the lookouts we find every gun in position as before. I have not yet been able to obtain such information as to determine whether the new camps are merely a ruse, whether the enemy is merely moving guns or withdrawing them, or whether the enemy is really re-enforced. All indications given by the outpost reports are in the latter direction.

On the evening of the 18th instant, a side-wheel steamer was reported from Cole's Island as coming down the Stono River. She ran down about 2 miles this side of Battery Pringle, and then returned. She is reported as being larger than any steamer seen before on Stono River, and having the appearance of a gun-boat.

Any movement of the enemy down the Stono would undoubtedly be accompanied by the appearance of his troops in force at Legareville, on John's Island. I therefore sent out a party on the night of the 19th instant to destroy the earth-works southwest of Legareville, which the enemy erected last winter, and from which they opened on our gun-boats on Christmas day with heavy artillery. The party met with the usual rebel cavalry pickets, and had some skirmishing. After having carried out their orders, they returned without loss. The enemy continues his engineering work on James Island, strengthening the bomb-proofs around Secessionville, and repairing the damages done to his batteries.

On the 18th instant, at 10 a. m., the execution of Private Wallace Baker, Company I, Fifty-fifth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, as ordered in General Orders, No. 90, headquarters Department of the South, June 16, 1864, took place in presence of all the troops on Folly Island. Since then I have thought it best to remove the Fifty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers to Morris Island, they being acquainted with the ground there, and have ordered the Thirty-third Regiment U. S. Colored Troops onto Folly Island. I am making my headquarters for the present on Morris Island.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,  
 A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

P. S.—I regret to state that during a reconnaissance on Kiawah Island, on the 15th instant, 3 men of the Fifty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers deserted to the enemy.

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., June 28, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that since my last report no deserters or refugees have come within my lines from the enemy.

Parties which I sent out to make prisoners have failed to attain this object. The field glasses which I placed in my lookouts while shelling the enemy's camps all along my line could not discover much, the weather having been quite hazy for the past week. It is, however, a remarkable fact that, although I have used every means to provoke the enemy's fire, I have received no answer from those guns which were formerly manned by the Second South Carolina Heavy Artillery. This fact, and several incidents of smaller importance, lead me to suppose that a change of troops took place on my front shortly after the heavy firing of the enemy along his entire line, reported some time ago. Such a change of troops of course implied a re-enforcement of the enemy for some little time, while the change was being effected.

The silence of the enemy's artillery tends to show that part of the artillery force (perhaps the Second South Carolina) have been sent elsewhere, and have taken their best pieces (those with which they formerly reached our lines from Secessionville and Legaré's Point) with them. Cavalry and infantry, perhaps militia, will have taken their places.

My fire on Sunday last, directed at the works on Johnson's Point, to provoke a reply, was promptly answered by the enemy from those works, which are manned by companies of the First South Carolina Artillery. The only method of clearing up this question will be to attack the enemy and make him show his force. I do not consider myself at present authorized to do this without orders from the major-general commanding the department. The enemy's steam-boats on Stono River have disappeared, with the exception of one which is anchored above Battery Pringle.

The bridge between Batteries Pringle and Tynes, leading from James to John's Island, the enemy has completed within the last four nights, so far as regards the piles and part of the covering and railing. This bridge has no draw, which precludes the intention on the part of the enemy of coming down the Stono River for offensive purposes with anything larger than torpedo-boats. It further goes to show that the enemy means to defend John's Island by re-enforcements sent from James Island, and this again indicates that the former district of General Wise (Adams' Run, Church Flats, Rantowles Station, and John's Island) is but insufficiently guarded.

The boom across Stono River was laid, but sunk, through miscalculation on the part of the captain of engineers; it will be relaid by to-morrow night.

I regret to state that through direct disobedience of my orders by Captain McKenna, First New York Volunteer Engineers, who yesterday landed 6 men at Legareville without a guard, 2 of them were captured by the enemy. The captain of engineers reports that the bomb-proof of Battery Chatfield will be completed this week.

The firing into the city has been kept up as usual. As regards Fort Sumter, I have had to repeat my former orders, the firing at the fort having been neglected. The recent high tides have washed away the sand and again exposed the wall perpendicular to the water. Our rifle guns are cutting horizontal and perpendicular lines in this wall to reduce the fort to its former condition and overthrow the repairs lately made by the enemy.

The enemy fired at Fort Putnam from Moultrie three days, throwing each day about 15 or 20 mortar shells. There have not been as



many of the enemy's fatigue parties visible for the last few days as usual, but they are working heavily at night, mainly at Secessionville.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., July 1, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, from intercepted messages signaled by the enemy, I obtained information that boats are being collected in the creek back of Mount Pleasant. This information is confirmed by the statement of refugees from Sullivan's Island, who came to the fleet night before last. They say that it was the common talk among the infantry and artillery on Sullivan's Island that an attack is to be made upon our batteries at the front on Morris Island. Yesterday from fifteen to eighteen boats were seen from Morris Island to come out from behind Johnson's Point and proceed to the wreck of a steamer in the harbor; also a group of boats were observed at anchor between the wreck and Castle Pinckney.

An unusual number of lights and considerable signaling was observed on Sullivan's Island last night. I am, of course, unable to say whether any attack will be made, but am prepared for it. The 2 refugees whom I examined gave a full statement of all the works upon Sullivan's Island and their armaments. This information will be forwarded with that relating to the other works of the enemy on our front. Their statements agree with information previously received. They say that the First South Carolina Regular Infantry and seven companies of the First South Carolina Heavy Artillery are garrisoning the works on Sullivan's Island. The infantry are doing duty as heavy artillery, sometimes cavalry, and a battery of light artillery is brought over at night from Mount Pleasant for picket duty.

At Mount Pleasant there is one battalion of infantry, two light artillery batteries, and some cavalry, who do picket toward the Fifteen-Mile House. They also state that the city is guarded by home guards. In regard to James Island and general information, they know nothing. Our fire upon the city has been as usual; we have also fired upon different working parties on Johnson's Point and at Secessionville. At the latter place they are mounting guns. At this present writing (3 p. m.) a brisk cannonade is being kept up between our batteries on Morris Island and the enemy's works upon Johnson's Point and Sullivan's Island, also between our works on Long Island and two batteries at Secessionville.

Your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Post.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., July 28, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of special interest has occurred in this command since the last visit of the major-general commanding. The firing upon Sumter has been continued at the same rate as when General Foster was here, and with good effect. The enemy has only occasionally answered our fire by a few shells from Sullivan's Island or James Island. A reconnaissance around Sumter, made by Lieutenant Eaton, of the One hundred and twenty-seventh Regiment New York Volunteers, is reported to General Foster, in connection with the object of the same.

On the night of the 25th to the 26th instant, 4 deserters of the First South Carolina Artillery, from Fort Johnson, came into our lines across the marsh, and were picked up by the boat infantry. The information given by them is made the subject of another report.

The engineer work on Morris Island has been carried on as rapidly as possible with the force at my disposal. Captain Edwards, of the First New York Volunteer Engineers, with 68 men, arrived here yesterday, and was assigned to the post of Morris Island.

The enemy on my front seems to have about the same force as before the late movements on John's and James Islands. They have been unusually active in fatigue duty around Johnson and Simkins and the works near Secessionville, both repairing their present works, connecting the batteries with rifle-pits, and erecting new batteries.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Morris Island, S. C., August 3, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred within this command since my last communication. The bombardment of Sumter has continued according to instructions from department headquarters, as far as the supply of ammunition and the condition of the guns in the batteries will allow. The result for the past eight days has been most favorable, and gives more hope of an ultimate demolition of the fort than ever before. The supply of mortar powder in the district has entirely run out, and I have been obliged to borrow 100 barrels from the navy to keep up the mortar firing. The ordnance officer informs me that he made requisition for this powder ten days ago, but has heard nothing from it yet.

In compliance with orders received from the major-general commanding, with regard to the exchange of prisoners to be effected in Charleston Harbor this day, the fire from our batteries was suspended as soon as the rebel steamer was seen coming out of the harbor, and resumed after she had returned.

Last night 2 persons in a boat coming out from Charleston were picked up by our picket-boats. They represented themselves as officers of the Third Ohio Volunteers, lately brought to Charleston and now escaped. They give their names as B. C. G. Reed, cap-

tain Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry ; T. B. Stevenson, first lieutenant. They state that there are 650 U. S. officers now confined in the jail at Charleston, lately brought there from Macon, Ga. Two other parties of prisoners, amounting to about 1,000, were started for Charleston, but were, for some reason, not sent through. My fire on the city will continue as before until I receive orders to the contrary. These officers report that communication between Charleston and Atlanta has been interrupted since the 29th ultimo. They also state that a party of 60 U. S. officers effected their escape somewhere near Charleston, and will try to get through to our lines. I shall do everything possible on my front to meet and assist them, sending out parties on Kiawah, Seabrook, and John's Islands. Further particulars of information may be furnished by the gentlemen themselves, whom I herewith forward. Inclosed please find a copy of a report from the commanding officer of the boat infantry of a late reconnaissance around Sumter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Morris Island, S. C., August 16, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to report as follows :

Since my last report, August 3, the enemy has shown no changes of any importance on my front. From the outpost reports it appears that his force is larger than before our last demonstration on his lines. This agrees with the accounts given by deserters. They state that of the re-enforcements sent from Atlanta to General Jones at the beginning of last month, the Fifth and Forty-seventh Georgia Infantry have been kept on John's and James Islands ever since. Consequently our late operations in this region did more than temporarily reduce the force at Atlanta. I have no information direct from the enemy's lines within the last eight days, but the fact that the number of the Union prisoners in Charleston has been increased rather indicates that the enemy intends to make Charleston something of a base, and consequently will not reduce his force there.

I have the honor to annex a report giving the regiments, their strength, and locality in the enemy's position. It sums up as follows : Old troops, from 6,000 to 7,000 men ; able-bodied civilians in the employ of the Government, 1,000 men ; State reserves, 1,000 men ; negro workmen, 3,000 to 4,000 men. The same disproportion exists between my artillery force and the enemy's. Against my one light battery he has five at his command ; against my 100 heavy guns he has 200 in position. The large supply of workmen above mentioned has enabled the enemy to commence digging again all along his lines. He is erecting new batteries north of Battery Beauregard ; another makes its appearance to the east of and close to Battery Bee ; Sumter he is repairing constantly under our fire ; large fatigue parties were seen for three days at work on Castle Pinckney as if mounting some heavy guns, perhaps the 600-pounder Blakely

they have been talking of so long. The several batteries at Simkins' Point, known by the name of Battery Simkins, he is connecting by rifle-pits, and probably closing in the rear, on the line of batteries between Fort Johnson and Battery Cheves. New works appear at two different places on the so-called "new line," extending from Fort Pringle, in the arc of a circle, to Secessionville. The enemy is observed working nearly everywhere, completing the line, repairing damages, and erecting new batteries. He has also tried to repair Battery Wright to his front of the "new line," but the fire of our batteries on Cole's Island so often and effectually molested these parties that the enemy seems to have given up work there.

I expected the enemy would use his superiority in numbers to take the offensive to some extent, and execute his former threat of taking Forts Putnam and Strong by surprise, in order to either hold them or at least to spike the guns. I therefore, during the last four weeks, considerably strengthened the garrisons of those forts and the pickets in their vicinity. The expected attack, however, did not take place, and the enemy has also kept very quiet all around the harbor of Charleston. In front of Long Island his picket-boats have again appeared. I have given orders to place boats in ambush for them and drive them out of those creeks within the next few days.

The enemy's artillery fire has been heavier than usual during the last fortnight. He has again commenced from James as well as from Sullivan's Island to shell our camps, but without any effect. In the front batteries there have been 4 men wounded.

I annex the report of the chief of artillery, giving the exact number of shots fired by the enemy as well as from our batteries.

The following dispatch, sent by the enemy from the city to their gun-boats, shows a certain state of nervousness still prevailing on his part, and that he expects us to attack him at some weak point rather than to take the offensive himself. The alarm was caused by three boats, under command of Lieutenant Eaton, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, of the boat infantry, engaged in experimenting in the harbor with a rope:

*City to 22.*

Commodore TUCKER:

The following message just received from Colonel Brown, commanding at ———:

"A large number of barges in front of Battery Simkins. The officer in charge heard the officer order the boats to move two abreast. I think it is for Sumter, but I will be prepared for them here. I sent a telegram to Sumter for them to be on the alert. Have your gun-boats out so as to prevent the enemy from taking Johnson in the rear."

C. S. STRINGFELLOW,  
*Major, Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Another dispatch shows plainly that though our fire on Sumter was slow, the enemy has sustained considerable loss by it. In this dispatch the commander of Fort Sumter asks for 30 negroes to make up the losses which he had sustained in killed, wounded, and sick.

In regard to my own operations, I have to report that Captain Quentin, of my staff, with the assistance of a navy boat, which was willingly furnished by the fleet, landed at different points on Long Island, north of Sullivan's Island, and found this island unoccupied by the enemy, a small outpost opposite Battery Marshall excepted. I have the honor herewith to annex his report.



The shelling of our camps by the enemy caused me to give the order to Fort Strong always to reply shot for shot to the enemy's batteries. On the night of the 8th to the 9th instant, while a quite lively fire was being exchanged between Fort Strong and Sullivan's Island, a blockade-runner undertook to run in. Either struck by our shells, or from fear of them not daring to keep in the channel, she ran aground, as was discovered by daylight the next morning. She was an iron steam propeller, of about 200 tons burden. She was aground immediately outside of Fort Moultrie and was entirely knocked to pieces and sunk by our fire.

All the reconnoitering parties sent up to and around Sumter report a very heavy swell in the channel, even during a calm night. This, and the want of professional men, has caused great delay in regard to the placing and explosion of the mines. I have not wished to try anything on a large scale before the men were accustomed to work on a small scale, and in these latter attempts they have failed thus far, simply from want of experience and of care. I am progressing slowly in this matter, but am confident of final success. The greatest effect will doubtless be obtained if we are able to explode those mines at the same time that our artillery fire on the fort is the heaviest.

Orders have been given by me to buoy out the channels of the harbor between Sumter, Johnson, Simkins, Paine's Dock, Forts Strong and Putnam. These orders have been partly executed. One-third of the plank walk from the left batteries over the marsh to Paine's Dock is finished.

The old batteries at the front are at present in tolerable repair. The new battery, I hope, will be finished this week. One of the magazines is nearly finished at present; one of the platforms is ready, one will be finished to-day, and one gun will be mounted to-night. The so-called Swamp Angel Battery was finished and the 30-pounder Parrott mounted there on the 13th instant. The firing from this gun seems to be quite effective, as reported by the pickets on Paine's Dock. The fire from our front batteries against Sumter has necessarily been slow and at long intervals, from want of ammunition and guns.

I have borrowed 450 barrels of powder and 1,000 30-pounder shells from the navy, in order not to be obliged entirely to suspend my fire. I have thus managed to keep the fort in about the state it was a fortnight ago, and it is my intention not to do more for the present and until a sufficient number of guns and supply of ammunition has been brought to the front batteries to admit of a constant fire for about one week. I have made my intentions in this respect the subject of a confidential communication to the major-general commanding.

On the 6th instant, a party of 100 infantry and a section of the Rocket Battery, under command of Captain Zeh, of the Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, was landed at Legareville and proceeded in a westerly direction as far as the bridge across Aberpoolie Creek. The object of the movement was, in case any of our escaped Union officers were on John's Island, back of Legareville, to give them the opportunity to come in. The party proceeded as far as the bridge, driving in the enemy's cavalry pickets before them. No casualties occurred and the party returned at evening.

On the night of the 6th to the 7th, a party of 30 cavalry, 60 infantry, and a section of the Rocket Battery, under command of Cap-



tain Blau, of the Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, were sent out over Kiawah Island with the same object as the party from Legareville. They proceeded to the southeastern end of Kiawah Island, carefully patrolling the interior of the island, but found no trace of either friend or enemy outside of our lines. I had given the party orders to cross to Seabrook Island, if practicable, but this was found impossible on account of the change that has taken place in the creek between Kiawah and Seabrook. This creek, which formerly had but from 2 to 3 feet of water at low tide, has deepened so much as to be no longer fordable even for cavalry.

On the 14th instant, a portion of the Seventy-fourth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, under command of Major Klenker, laid planks on the bridge, and crossed from the right of Cole's Island to James Island for the purpose of setting fire to the trees and brush which we cut down before leaving our position there on the 10th of July. Their crossing was covered by the guns of our battery on the right of Cole's Island. The enemy fell back, and the object of the crossing was accomplished with no attempt at interference on his part. It is thus demonstrated that we can now at any time cross to our former position on James Island without difficulty.

Companies E and I of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, stationed at Fort Strong, were relieved on the 14th instant by Companies K and L of the same regiment, the former being about to return home by reason of expiration of term of service.

On the 15th instant, eighteen teams arrived in the district from Hilton Head. A schooner bringing the five Dahlgren guns arrived at Light-House Inlet this morning, and is now being discharged. The only steamer now at my disposal is the *Golden Gate*; she is not sufficient to supply the transportation of ammunition from Stono to Light-House Inlet, especially as I am obliged to send her to Legareville and elsewhere for lumber to supply the engineers. The large amount of fatigue duty that the troops under my command are obliged to carry on is beginning to have its effect in an increase of sickness among them.

In compliance with orders from department headquarters received this day, the One hundred and third Regiment New York Volunteers and the Thirty-second Regiment U. S. Colored Troops have been ordered to embark for Hilton Head, en route for the North. My reason for selecting the One hundred and third Regiment New York Volunteers as the one to go are: First. That they have been in this department longer than any other white regiment in this district, and that the effect of the climate is showing itself in their sick list. Second. That the colonel of this regiment has heretofore made application to be removed from my command.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER, A. A. G.

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,

*Morris Island, S. C., August 24, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of special interest has occurred since my last report except the burning of Legareville by the enemy on the night of the 20th instant. This

was evidently done to prevent our obtaining lumber from there, as we have done lately. The enemy shows considerable activity in front of Folly Island.

On the 20th instant, two boats loaded with men appeared in Secessionville Creek, opposite Pine Island, the men of one boat landing on Pine Island and those of the other remaining in the stream, apparently fishing for or sinking something. They were fired at from Long Island, but did not hurry their departure on that account. I have reprimanded the officer then commanding Long Island for not attacking them more vigorously and in boats. On the afternoon of the 23d instant, a small stern-wheel steamer came down Stono River as far as Battery Island, remaining in the stream about twenty minutes, and then returned up the river. In view of this reconnoitering on the part of the enemy I have ordered the 10-inch columbiad from the right of Cole's Island to be placed in the battery (No. 2) on the left of Cole's Island, on the Stono River, opposite Legareville. This is where it was originally intended to be placed when interfered with by the movement against James Island. I have also ordered another columbiad, of which the muzzle is partly blown off, to be placed in this same battery (No. 2), Cole's Island. Another rebel iron-clad or ram, making the fourth, is now visible in Charleston Harbor. This I am certain of from my own observation, having distinctly seen four iron-clads in Cooper River steam up. There was besides a smaller steamer, apparently built on the same model as the rams, which steamed about among them, and seemed to act as a tender.

On the night of the 21st to the 22d, the enemy seems to have had an alarm in the harbor. Some shots were heard, and at daybreak about 100 men, armed with muskets, were seen on the species of citadel visible on Sumter.

The enemy has continued the work of repairs and alterations along his entire line of works.

The following is the number of shots fired by our batteries and by the enemy since my last report of the 16th instant: At Fort Sumter, total number of shots, 1,014; at the city we have fired within the last twenty-four hours fifteen 100-pounder shell. Previous to that there was no firing at the city, the 100-pounder being dismounted by reason of a broken carriage, and the powder that we had for the 30-pounder being so poor as not to throw a shell into the city. The enemy has fired from Sullivan's and James Islands at our camps and front batteries 118 shells. This fire has been responded to from Fort Strong.

I have stopped all the fatigue duty for the purpose of proceeding with the prisoners' camp and putting my front batteries in decent repairs, which they very much required. In order to make these batteries secure against assault a certain amount of strong palisading is required, which I cannot obtain here. I will make this matter the subject of another communication.

In view of the reappearance of the enemy's steamers on Stono River, I would respectfully urge that the chains and other material for a boom across the river, called for some time ago, be furnished by the proper department without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER, A. A. G.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Morris Island, S. C., September 2, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of especial interest has occurred within this district since my last communication.

On the 28th ultimo, 2 deserters from the Forty-seventh Georgia Infantry came into our lines, having crossed the marsh and swam the creeks from Secessionville to Long Island. A report of their examination is forwarded by the provost-marshal of the district. They bring no general news of any interest and represent the enemy's forces about Charleston very nearly the same as last reported by me. Their own regiment, the Forty-seventh Georgia, they state, has now only about 250 men for duty, a very large number being sick in hospital. They do not consider that any offensive operations are intended, and the fact that volunteers were called for to set Secessionville on fire certainly indicates considerable timidity on the part of the enemy.

Parties of the enemy have shown themselves of late more frequently than usual in front of Long and Cole's Islands, but have not as yet taken the offensive. The fatigue duty is continued as before on the works along their entire line. On the 26th ultimo, a party commanded by Captain Friedle, Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, landed at Legareville. They explored the country for over a mile from the river, but found no signs of batteries nor any force of the enemy. The party returned at evening, after having knocked down the chimneys which impeded our view.

On the night of the 28th ultimo, a pontoon-boat, fitted up for the purpose and containing about twenty hundredweight of powder, was taken out by Lieut. G. F. Eaton, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, boat infantry, and floated down into the left flank of Fort Sumter. The garrison of Sumter was alarmed before the mine reached them, and opened upon our boats with musketry, without, however, doing them any injury. Owing to the fact of the officers of the boat infantry having miscalculated the rate of the current, especially near the fort, where there seems to be nearly dead water, the mine exploded about 50 yards from the fort and did not apparently do it any injury. On the night of the 31st ultimo six torpedoes, made of barrels set in frames, each containing 100 pounds of powder, were set afloat with the flood-tide from the southeast of Sumter with the view of destroying the boom. They probably exploded too early and only injured perhaps two lengths or links of the boom, which are not now visible.

The firing from our front battery since my last report (nine days) has been as follows: At Fort Sumter, 936 shells; at the city, 298 shells. The enemy has fired during the same time from his batteries on James and Sullivan's Islands 490 shells, which have been duly responded to from Fort Strong. The enemy has thrown mortar shells at Paine's Dock for several nights past.

I have made the following alterations in the armaments of some of my smaller batteries: From Long Island I have taken away two 30-pounder Parrotts and placed there one of the 12-pounder howitzers captured from the enemy on James Island last July. From the battery on the right of Cole's Island, I have removed one 10-inch columbiad and two 10-inch mortars, leaving there two 30-pounder Parrotts and one captured 12-pounder. In the battery on the left of Cole's Island I have placed two 10-inch columbiads. In the oyster-shell fort on Cole's Island I have placed two 30-pounder Parrotts.



With regard to the engineer work in this district Lieutenant Edwards, First New York Volunteer Engineers, reports that all the repairing of platforms in the old works is completed and the necessary sodding is being done as rapidly as practicable. The Dahlgren battery he reports cannot be completed with the present details and transportation available in less than from two to three weeks.

The ground for the prisoners' camp is entirely inclosed and graded off. The tents will be put up to-night; all that is wanted to complete the camp is the material for the raised sentry walk to be put around it. I received notice this morning from Captain Green, commanding squadron off Charleston, that these prisoners were on board of a transport steamer off this island. I expect to be ready to have them land by Sunday, the 4th instant. I will submit the regulation for the prisoners' camp by the next steamer.

I have to report that I sent the armed transport steamer Plato back to Hilton Head on the 28th ultimo. On the same day Ensign Neil, of the major-general's staff, also left here for Hilton Head.

The supply of coal in this district has entirely run out. The chief quartermaster at Hilton Head has instructed my quartermaster to borrow coal from the navy, but it seems their supply is also exhausted and they have none to lend.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER, A. A. G.

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No. 8.

*Reports of Maj. Joseph Morrison, One hundred and third New York Infantry, of demonstration on James Island (May 22) and skirmish on James Island (July 2).*

LONG ISLAND, S. C., May 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience with orders I received from the commanding officer of the post of Folly Island, S. C., I this day made a reconnaissance in force to James Island, with 400 men—150 men of the One hundred and third New York Volunteers and 250 of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers. As I received the order to cross to James Island very late in the evening of the 21st, I had but little time to make preparations, and as the moon and tide were against such a movement, I entered on the expedition fully conscious that my landing on James Island would be disputed, and that I would find the rebels in force at the abatis in front of Tiger Island, and I was not mistaken. Owing to the fact that I had but four small boats at my disposal, it took me from 12 m. to 4 a. m. to land my men on Tiger Island. The rebel picket-post in front of Battery No. 2 could plainly see every boat-load of men that crossed.

At ten minutes after 4 a. m., I sent a party of 20 men over the swamp as skirmishers, to feel if the enemy was in force behind the abatis. As the skirmishers were fired upon immediately, I sent Capt. J. E. Quentin, One hundred and third New York Volunteers, over with 75 men, with orders to deploy his men so that his right would rest on the swamp that runs through James Island, and to advance rapidly in the direction of Stono River, always keeping his



right resting on the swamp. I sent Capt. William Redlick, One hundred and third New York Volunteers, after Captain Quentin, with orders to form his men on the left of Quentin's and to advance in a line with him. I ordered Capt. W. Nutt, with one company of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, to deploy and engage the enemy that were posted on the right of the stone house, and who were at the time firing upon us from behind bushes. I then crossed over with the remainder of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, and, on landing, detached another company to support Captains Quentin and Redlick, who were at the time busily engaged with the enemy on the right. While Captains Quentin and Redlick were driving the rebels on the right in the most gallant manner, Capt. W. Nutt, of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, was advancing and clearing the woods on the left in fine style.

When I arrived opposite Cole's Island, and finding that nothing more could be accomplished, as the enemy would not stand and fight, I was preparing to fall back by way of Cole's Island when I met the colonel commanding the post, who had with him a force to cover our crossing in case the enemy followed us up. We fell back in perfect order, having 9 men wounded and 2 missing. Seven of the wounded belonged to the One hundred and third New York Volunteers, and the 2 missing to the same regiment. The missing are supposed to have been killed. All our wounded were carried off the field in safety and are now in hospital.

During the engagement the officers and men of the One hundred and third New York Volunteers proved themselves worthy of the reputation they made at South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Suffolk. The Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers conducted themselves throughout like veterans, and no one would judge from their conduct under fire that it was their first fight. The presence of their accomplished colonel, who volunteered for the purpose of witnessing the demeanor of his men (waiving his rank), had an excellent effect on the men. As the officers and men of both detachments have done so well I am very loath to speak in terms of censure of any one, but my duty to the service compels me to say that First Lieut. A. Hurner, of the One hundred and third New York Volunteers, and Lieutenant Bradish, of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, behaved more like poltroons than like officers of a military organization. Lieutenant Stimpson, of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, acted as my aide, and was conspicuous for his coolness.

I regret that circumstances over which I had no control prevented me from taking any prisoners, but I am conscious of having carried out to the letter the orders I received and of having done everything to forward the objects that the colonel commanding had in view. I met the enemy in superior force and in positions chosen by himself, and defeated him at all points. The fact that it required four 4-horse ambulances all the forenoon to draw off from the field the killed and wounded of the enemy shows how severely he was punished by my men.

Hoping that the indomitable bravery of the officers and men under my command may be recognized by the colonel commanding the post, I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH MORRISON,

*Major, Comdg. 103d New York Volunteers.*

Capt. THEOPHILE WAUGNER,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

## HDQRS. 103D REGIMENT NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,

*Folly Island, S. C., July 11, 1864.*

SIR: In obedience to orders from post headquarters, Folly Island, I have the honor to report the part taken by this regiment, under my command, in the late attack made by our forces on James' Island, S. C.

On the afternoon of June 30, 1864, I was ordered to move my regiment to Pawnee Landing, and to report to Colonel Hartwell. I arrived at Pawnee Landing about 5 p. m., and by 9 p. m. my regiment was safely landed on Long Island. At 10 p. m., I received orders to return with my command to Pawnee Landing. As I had to wait for the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts to precede me in crossing, it was after midnight before the boats were at my disposal. By 2 a. m., July 1, I had succeeded in getting about half of the regiment over to Pawnee Landing, when the order was countermanded, so that portion of the regiment in boats had to return to Long Island, arriving there about daylight. I know not who is responsible for keeping my officers and men rowing between Folly Island and Long Island, depriving them of all rest just as they were about entering upon an expedition that required troops to be in the best physical condition. On the evening of July 1, I moved my regiment over to Tiger Island, and as the tide was low the landing was very difficult, many of the men sinking into the mud almost to their armpits. At 4 a. m., I was ordered to cross to James Island, which I did, moving by the right flank. As we approached the island a few of the enemy's vedettes fired upon us. I sent Captains Crosby and Turnt forward with their companies to engage whatever picket force the enemy might have stationed on my right and in front of Battery No. 2, Long Island. When I advanced on the island a few rods I halted the head of my column in order to enable the men on the left to close up, but before I could get the regiment in any shape I was ordered to advance. By this time the few skirmishers I had thrown forward had moved off to the right and were not to be found. I again halted. I sent my acting adjutant in search of the skirmishers, and in the mean time tried to get the regiment closed up in some kind of shape, as the march through the swamp had so completely fatigued a portion of the men that it was with the greatest difficulty they could be kept up with the regiment. I had not more than halted when I was again ordered forward, and as my adjutant reported that he could not find the skirmishers, and deeming it unsafe to advance without them, I ordered Sergeant Kimball, of Company I, to take 10 men and advance as skirmishers. As the sergeant and his men knew nothing about skirmishing they were of no use, as they never advanced 50 yards in front of the column.

As I moved forward I came upon an open strip of land, situated in front of Battery Wright, and as I was about moving toward the battery by the direct road that runs through James Island at this point, I was ordered to file to the right and follow the river running up to Fort Lamar. I had just got the right wing of my regiment on the new direction [when] we were fired upon by a few rebel infantry that were posted in a clump of bushes immediately in front of the head of my regiment and a little to the left of Battery Wright, and the next instant the enemy opened with two pieces of artillery from Battery Wright. The first fire of the enemy killed 7 of my men and wounded many others, and as my regiment was taken completely by surprise and in no position to charge the battery, I

was compelled to fall back a few rods and reform behind a strong rifle-pit, running in front of the enemy's works. At the time the enemy opened upon my regiment with canister, the Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops on my left commenced firing. After forming my regiment behind the rifle-pits, I received orders to advance by the left flank on the rebel works, which I did, but did not arrive until the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers had possession. After forming at Battery Wright, I was ordered to move my regiment forward and take up a position behind a rifle-pit about a quarter of a mile farther on in the direction of Secessionville, where we remained till 9 p. m., when I was ordered to march the regiment back to the overseer's house, opposite Cole's Island. Nothing took place during the 3d of July worth reporting.

I cannot close this report without acknowledging my indebtedness to Lieutenant Olmesorg, who acted as my adjutant, for the cheerful assistance he rendered me during the stay of the regiment on James Island. His energy as an executive officer is only surpassed by his gallantry under fire.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH MORRISON,  
Major, Comdg. 103d New York Volunteers.

Lieutenant PERRY,  
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

#### ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 21. }

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
Folly Island, S. C., May 26, 1864.

The colonel commanding the post expresses thanks to officers and men of his command who have participated in the engagements on the morning of the 22d of May and the night before. All orders have been carried out with the strongest determination. The colonel commanding feels it his duty to mention particularly the conduct of Major Morrison, of the One hundred and third New York Volunteers, and the detachments of the One hundred and third New York Volunteers and of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers under his command, and with pride he expresses his fullest satisfaction to all of them.

By order of Col. Leopold von Gilsa, commanding post:

TH. WAUGNER,  
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

#### No. 9.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Rufus Saxton, U. S. Army, commanding Northern District, of operations in September.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
Morris Island, S. C., September 17, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that there is no material change in the status of affairs in this command since my last report. The enemy seems very active along their lines and have recently received a large number of negroes from the interior, who are at work on their batteries. Quite a number are in Fort Sumter. A new battery has been established between Johnson and Secessionville, which, with Bee and Moultrie, gives a pretty strong cross-fire on our front works. A new camp was discovered yesterday on Sullivan's



Island, and re-enforcements are also reported on James Island. Intercepted dispatches indicate that the enemy is also busily at work on Fort Sumter as well as on Bee and Marshall. I keep up a regular fire upon Charleston from the 100-pounder Parrott, with most excellent effect.

Some intelligent deserters, who came to the navy on yesterday direct from Charleston, informed me that within the last week our fire has been more destructive than ever before to the city. The shells fall more than two blocks above Calhoun street, into the most populous portion of the city. The city is completely within the range of our guns and can be destroyed.

The materials for building the stockade have not yet arrived, and consequently no progress has been made in this much-needed work. The naval battery is progressing very slowly; we have no material for the bomb-proof. Within the last two days the work on this battery has been greatly interfered with by a corps of sharpshooters which the enemy has stationed on Fort Sumter. The bullets came in very thick when I was at the front this morning. I hope if there are any telescopic rifles in the department, or any can be procured, they may be sent to me at once. I think I can use them to great advantage.

The shelling from the enemy's mortars was severe this morning on our front works, and having but little mortar powder we were unable to reply effectively. The mortars were very much needed to-day. I regret that our ordnance supplies are so scanty that I cannot make a decent defense of this important post. No powder for the mortars, no suitable fuses for the fire on Charleston, no shells for the 30-pounder Parrotts (a most useful gun for silencing the enemy's fire), no material for making cartridge bags or grease for lubricating the projectiles. I shall do all in my power with what I have, but these deficiencies in materials which are of such vital importance to successful operations I deem it my duty to call your attention to, in the hope that they may soon be supplied. More ammunition for the 300-pounder—the most useful gun in these works—is also very much wanted.

The prisoners now confined in front of Fort Strong are well cared for and quiet. In their firing the enemy seem to disregard them entirely. No casualties have as yet occurred among them.

Our batteries act entirely upon the defensive, except the one gun on Charleston. I have issued the inclosed (confidential) orders\* to the field and staff officers of this command, to be observed in case of an attack for the purpose of rescuing the prisoners now in our hands. The rations for them are regulated in accordance with the ration list you sent me. The deserters report that our prisoners from Andersonville, Ga., are being moved to Charleston, and that 10,000 of our soldiers are now in the city. I cannot express too strongly my own convictions of the great importance of having all the materials sent here to place the forts and batteries with their armament and magazines in complete order for service.

I am, general, with great respect, yours, truly,

R. SAXTON,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,

*Commanding Department of the South.*

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\* See General Orders, No. 56, September 15, Part II, p. 289.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Morris Island, S. C., September 27, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the affairs of this district remain much as at the date of my last report. The enemy seems to be busily engaged strengthening his defensive works and mounting new guns. His sharpshooters continue to annoy my working parties from Fort Sumter. With this exception, he has made no demonstration upon my lines. His sharpshooters are very industrious, and retard my work somewhat. I keep up a steady and effective fire upon the city from my 100-pounder and 200-pounder Parrotts.

The 200-pounder now in use is by far the most effective gun ever brought to bear upon the city. I think it is very destructive, as nearly the entire city can be covered by its fire. I am anxious to experiment with a 300-pounder upon the city. If there is another one in the department, or one can be procured, I hope it will be forwarded to me for this purpose. I think we should have more and heavier guns mounted than the enemy. At present we have not, and he has a terrible cross-fire upon Gregg, which he will be sure to use to our injury if we are not prepared for it.

A large fire, probably caused by our shells, broke out in Charleston on the 17th instant at 2 p. m. and burned fiercely for several hours, causing great excitement in the city. Last evening my signal officer intercepted the inclosed dispatch from the rebel General Ripley. The first part of the dispatch my officer did not get. I sent a copy of the dispatch to the admiral of the fleet. Believing that the enemy intended to attack Fort Putnam, I made my dispositions accordingly to give him a warm reception, but the night being stormy he did not appear. From the long silence of all his batteries I infer that the enemy intends to attack soon. I shall endeavor to be ready. I have, however, to work my force severely. The deficiency in my ordnance supplies has not yet been filled. I hope they will be hurried up.

The prisoners are all safe and well guarded. They have made two unsuccessful attempts at tunneling out, and 6 tried to escape from the schooner on which I had embarked them for a change of air. There is a great deal of sickness among them; 1 has died. I think the sickness is the result of a want of proper food.

The work on the forts is progressing, but slowly. I am not satisfied with the progress made, but in saying this I do not wish to be understood as censuring any one. Lieutenant Edwards, the engineer in charge, is diligent and faithful. Want of transportation and material is the great cause of delay. I need thirty-six mule teams immediately, in addition to what I now have, to do the work of this post. I trust the general commanding will have them sent. I also need a large-sized field telescope for observing the movements of the enemy. General Gillmore had one while he commanded the department. If it is not now in the department, I respectfully request that the chief quartermaster be ordered to purchase one in New York.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. SAXTON,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

FORT STRONG, *September 26, 1864.**City to Fort Johnson.*

\_\_\_\_\_ and take Gregg, while I attempt to run out to-night. Our batteries have been instructed to permit them to pass. Please inform your pickets.

RIPLEY,  
General.

Lieutenant ROBERTS:

This message was sent in the new code, and there were a few words in the beginning that I did not get, but from the purport of the message I should judge that they intended to attack to-night and run a vessel out. Please inform the general. Will keep a bright lookout.

COLVIN,  
Sergeant.

No. 10.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Edward E. Potter, U. S. Army, commanding Northern District, of operations October 27–November 7.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Morris Island, November 7, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that since assuming command of this district\* I have visited and inspected all the forts, batteries, garrisons, and outposts on the different islands. On Morris Island the palisading about Fort Putnam and the naval battery is completed. The stockade in rear of Battery Chatfield is very nearly finished; the palisading in its front is not yet commenced. The work upon the naval battery has been delayed by the want of plank for revetments and for the bomb-proof. Five of the 11-inch guns are in position, and fire could be opened at any time. A serious drawback to the speedy completion of these works has been the lack of transportation, there not being sufficient to carry sod and lumber to the front as fast as they were required. I would suggest that a covered way, to serve also as an infantry parapet, be constructed between the naval battery and Battery Chatfield. Some sand has been loosely thrown up there, but the winds soon scatter it. Fort Shaw and Battery Purviance, at the south end of the island, are both in good condition, with the exception that the palisading around each of them requires to be repaired and strengthened.

The troops upon Morris Island are generally in good health. The Fifty-sixth New York, which came from Beaufort with a large sick-list, have improved, but still furnish a larger sick report than any other regiment in this district. Their camp being in an unhealthy locality, I directed its removal farther up the beach.

The boat infantry, composed of the larger portion of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, has had its efficiency lessened by

\* October 27, 1864.



the fact that several of its boats have become unserviceable; the reason assigned for their not having been repaired was the want of boards. Finding that the post quartermaster had a small quantity of suitable material at his boat shop, I ordered all the boats needing repairs to be sent there.

Fire is kept up on Charleston at the rate of 1 shell every fifteen minutes from the 100-pounder Parrotts at Fort Putnam. There has been some mortar practice at Sumter from Battery Chatfield. On the morning of the 5th instant, a sloop was discovered aground off Fort Moultrie. Fire was opened upon her from Fort Putnam with two 30-pounder Parrotts, from Battery Chatfield with one 300-pounder Parrott, and from Fort Strong with 100-pounder Parrotts. Lieutenant-Colonel Ames, chief of artillery, reports the practice to have been remarkably good. The vessel was set on fire and burned to the water's edge. Her cargo is supposed to have been cotton. Only 33 rounds were fired at her in all.

On Folly Island, Fort Greene, at the northern end, is in good order. Battery Mahan and Fort Delafield are both undergoing repairs. In accordance with orders issued by General Scammon the Fifty-fourth New York has been moved from the southern end of the island and camped nearly midway between Pawnee Landing and the white house. The Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers remain at the southern extremity of the island.

On Cole's Island the battery on the right, known as No. 1, is being repaired by the officers in command. The abatis in its front needs to be renewed and strengthened, which I directed to be done. The battery on the left, No. 2, I found to be without ditch or palisade. This work is more exposed to attack than any other on the whole line. I ordered a ditch to be commenced at once and a palisading to be constructed.

A corporal of the New York Volunteer Engineers has been sent to take charge of this work. From Battery No. 1 to No. 2 a chain of pickets extends across the island. At the southern point of Cole's Island are encamped five companies of the Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops, the remainder of the regiment furnishing the garrison of the batteries and the details for outpost duty.

The battery on Long Island is undergoing repairs. The interior slopes and magazines have been newly revetted. The exterior slopes are still in an unfinished state. The garrison upon this island consists of three companies Fifty-fifth Massachusetts (colored), detailed from the post of Folly Island.

The battery on Black Island is in good order. Its garrison consists of one company Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, from the post of Morris Island.

The supply of ammunition in all these forts and batteries is kept up to the amount of 100 rounds for each gun, besides the quantity in reserve in the ordnance depot. I forward herewith the report of Lieutenant-Colonel Ames, chief of artillery, Department of the South, of the firing from the heavy guns in this district during the month of October.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. E. POTTER,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

## No. 11.

*Report of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding  
U. S. Forces, Hilton Head, &c., of operations July 2-11.*

HDQRS. U. S. FORCES, HILTON HEAD, FORT PULASKI,  
SAINT HELENA, AND TYBEE ISLANDS,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 12, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the reconnaissance in force lately made by my command on John's Island:

The force, consisting of Saxton's brigade (three regiments of infantry) and Day's battery (Third New York Artillery), commanded by Brig. Gen. R. Saxton; Davis' brigade (three regiments of infantry), commanded by Col. W. W. H. Davis, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers; two companies Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, commanded by Maj. D. B. Keith, commenced disembarking on Seabrook Point on the morning of the 2d instant. Owing to the shallowness of water at the dock and unexpected difficulties in landing, we were unable to complete the disembarkation until the morning of the 3d instant. The One hundred and forty-fourth New York Volunteers, Col. W. J. Slidell commanding, as soon as landed on the morning of the 2d, advanced and occupied Haulover Cut, where some opposition had been expected. The prompt movement of Colonel Slidell prevented the occupation by the enemy of the works at that point. The remainder of Davis' brigade, with a few cavalry, were sent to his support as soon as possible, and a good bridge over the cut, capable of passing artillery, completed before night. As soon as landed Saxton's command and the cavalry were pushed forward to Haulover Cut, where the last of the command arrived about 10 a. m. on the 3d. Davis' brigade, the cavalry, and a piece of artillery marched to Jenkins' house, on Bohicket Creek, 4 miles in advance of the cut, on the morning of the 3d, and the whole command was consolidated at that point on the evening of the same day. From the moment of landing a small force of the enemy's cavalry hovered around the advance, occasionally firing upon us, but rapidly falling back when pursued by our cavalry.

*July 4.*—The command moved to a point on the Aberpoolie Creek, 3 miles from Legareville, where a detachment of 25 of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry and Wildt's battery of the Third New York Artillery joined. The intense heat of the day prevented a longer march that day, a large number of the command becoming exhausted.

*July 5.*—Leaving a battalion of four companies of the Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops at the camp of the last night, and two companies of the same regiment at the forks of the road, where the road branches to Bugbee Bridge, to prevent my communication with Legareville being cut, we marched to a point opposite Battery Pringle and occupied a strong position, fronting on a marsh, the right of the line protected by the Stono River, the left by an almost impenetrable jungle. Pickets, strongly supported, were thrown half a mile to the front and a reconnaissance made of Battery Pringle. This battery or fort was found to be an extensive earth-work, mounting eight large guns, protected from an enfilading fire

on John's Island by heavy traverses, and containing an enormous bomb-proof, apparently equaling in size that of Fort Wagner. Along the front of this work, and separating it from the portion of James Island on which our troops are situated, is a marsh with a small creek, crossed by a bridge. Battery Tynes, in its rear about 1½ miles, completely commands Battery Pringle. It is a small but well-built work with traverses and large bomb-proof, apparently mounting five guns. Information reaching me during the day that the enemy had cut my line of communication at the forks of the road, General Saxton, with a brigade, was detached to reopen it. He found that the two companies at the forks of the road had been attacked by a large force, with one howitzer, and had fallen back to the camp of the previous night, with a loss of 2 killed.

*July 6.*—Continued reconnaissance; the enemy, appearing in front of our pickets in force with three pieces of artillery, shelled our camp. The only casualty was the severe wounding of Col. W. W. H. Davis, who, with Lieutenant Suter, U. S. Engineers, and myself, was examining the front, with a view to intrenching. Saxton, with his brigade, joined in the afternoon, bringing up the regiment left to guard the road. Communication with the troops on James Island having been opened by means of the fleet, it was no longer necessary to retain the regiment on the road. Receiving information from Major-General Foster that during his absence I would be in command of all the forces operating near Charleston, I turned over to General Saxton the command of the troops on John's Island and repaired on board ship in the Stono River, to which point the transports that had landed the troops at Seabrook Point had arrived, to receive them on the completion of the reconnaissance.

*July 7.*—General Saxton this day attacked the enemy's line of rifle-pits with the Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops. The troops behaved very handsomely, advancing steadily in open ground, under a heavy fire, and driving the enemy from the line. Had the advance been supported, the enemy's artillery would have been captured; as it was, both artillery and infantry were driven from the field.

*July 8.*—The enemy were strongly re-enforced, and Battery Pringle opened on our camp with one 8-inch and one 10-inch columbiad. There were, however, no casualties. General Foster having returned to the Stono River, I again assumed immediate command of the troops on John's Island, being re-enforced by Montgomery's brigade.

*July 9.*—At daybreak the enemy drove in my pickets. At 5.45 a. m., he attacked my line in force with great spirit, but was easily repulsed in about fifteen minutes. At 6.30 a. m., he again attacked with a larger force. There was no wavering in our lines, while the infantry poured in a deadly fire. Captain Day, securing a good position for five Napoleon guns, gave them volleys of spherical case, while the Sixth, being in front, fired double canister. It was not necessary to bring up the reserve infantry, the enemy flying in confusion in ten minutes from the opening of our fire. Our loss in these two attacks was trifling, while that of the enemy was undoubtedly severe. During the remainder of the day the enemy remained quiet, and the object of the expedition being fully accomplished, preparations were made to retire from the island. One battery was sent to the rear during the day, and during the night the whole command was withdrawn to a point near Legareville, and embarked without annoyance from the enemy.



The total loss during the occupation of John's Island was 2 officers and 9 men killed, and 2 officers and 69 men wounded. The number missing I have not yet received. It is, however, very small, but unfortunately numbers among them a valuable officer, Surg. W. T. Robinson, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

In closing this report, I take pleasure in calling to the notice of the major-general commanding the department the valuable service rendered by Col. W. W. H. Davis, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers. His energy, activity, and gallantry made his loss a severe one to the expedition, and it was felt to be so by his command, who are much attached to him. Colonel Montgomery, commanding brigade, and Colonel Slidell, commanding One hundred and forty-fourth New York Volunteers, also deserve notice for their skillful handling of their troops and gallantry in action. Lieut. Col. W. T. Bennett, One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, serving on my staff, rendered valuable assistance, both on the march and in action. I cannot express too strongly the estimation in which I hold his conduct. Lieut. E. B. Van Winkle, aide-de-camp, was untiring in the performance of his duties, and ambitious of distinction on the field. To the officers of Major-General Foster's staff, Capt. W. L. M. Burger, assistant adjutant-general, and First Lieut. J. R. McGinness, Ordnance Department, who accompanied me as volunteers, I am under obligations for their cheerful attention to the disagreeable duties imposed on them by the vexatious delays and difficulties, unexpected but unavoidable.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brig. Gen., U. S. Volunteers, Comdg.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 12.

*Reports of Col. Henry M. Hoyt, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CHARLESTON JAIL, August 2, 1864.

On 3d July we carried Fort Simkins, the Brooke gun battery, and with 135 men (all who had landed) pushed over the parapets of Fort Johnson, and the garrison had actually begun to leave. The battery (Tynes) was in our possession. Nothing but the failure of the other boats to land prevented our capture of the works. All who landed (five boat-loads, 135) were captured. I trust the most thorough investigation will be made, let the responsibility fall where it may.

HENRY M. HOYT,

*Colonel Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers.*

[Indorsement.]

AUGUST 5, 1864.

Received by the hands of one of our released officers.

Copy to be sent to General Schimmelfennig.

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

HDQRS. FIFTY-SECOND PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS,  
*Morris Island, S. C., August 21, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : I beg leave to submit the following report of the operations of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers on Fort Johnson, in Charleston Harbor, on the morning of 3d July last :

In pursuance of orders from Colonel Gurney, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, commanding U. S. Forces, Morris Island, S. C., the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, to the number of 500 officers and men, embarked in twenty barges on the evening of 2d July, and moved to Paine's Dock, the appointed rendezvous, arriving there somewhat before 12 midnight. We were immediately joined by the other forces composing the expedition, to wit, 60 officers and men of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, under Captain Churchill, and the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, under command of Major Little, of that regiment. At a few minutes past 1 a. m., the moment the tide (which had been at dead low water) turned, the fleet of boats moved for its destination under the instructions, in the order and for the purpose following. All these instructions and orders had been fully, carefully, and repeatedly explained and communicated to the officers and men in the affair to an extent to render misconception impossible. We were to move across Charleston Harbor, land on the beach between Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins, assault and carry the works on the east end of James Island, the attack on Fort Johnson being assigned to the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, that on Simkins to the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, the artillery detachment being divided between them both. The boats were to move across the harbor with the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers in advance, followed by the Third Rhode Island Artillery and the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, in single file, well closed up, expecting to cross the bar at a point midway between Forts Sumter and Simkins, head for Johnson's Point, face by the left flank, and move vigorously to the beach and carry the works with the bayonet. A pilot (one Sergeant Bennett, of Company E, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers), who was selected by Colonel Gurney to conduct us, was placed in the leading boat, commanded by First Lieutenant Farr, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. Colonel Gurney announced his intention of making his own headquarters at Paine's Dock, and ordered an officer of his staff, name unknown to me, to report with a light dispatch-boat to myself, then to be the senior officer in the movement across the harbor and the expected assault. This officer did not report to me. But one signal of retreat, should such possibly be ordered, was agreed upon, and this was to be made upon a bugle, which was in my possession.

With these plain and minute instructions, which were understood by everybody afloat, we moved from Paine's Dock the instant the tide turned. The head of the column, properly followed, proceeded in the proper direction. I am aware of no delays which occurred except such as were necessarily caused by the pilot in his attempts to find and keep the channel he sought. Upon arriving at the bar extending from Simkins to Fort Sumter, the great obstacle we had to encounter, it was found still to be out of water, the tide being at about a quarter full. The pilot in the leading boat announced his utter inability to find any channel through the bar and declined to







twenty boats (pontoons and metallic), the right of the regiment to embark in the lightest-draught boats, as they were to take the lead. Col. John B. Conyngham was assigned the first boat division, consisting of the three right companies of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers (A, F, and D). They were to embark in four boats, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4; First Lieut. N. P. Farr commanding No. 1, to which the guide was assigned; No. 2, Capt. T. B. Camp; No. 3, Lieutenant-Colonel Conyngham; No. 4, First Lieut. James G. Stevens. The four center companies (I, C, H, and E) formed the second boat division, under the command of Colonel Hoyt; No. 5, commanded by Capt. Harry H. Jenks, Company I; No. 6, First Lieut. Thomas E. Evans, Company I; No. 7, Capt. W. S. Chatham, Company C; No. 8, First Lieut. William V. Hollingsworth, Company C; No. 9, Capt. John B. Fish, Company H; No. 10, Capt. H. D. Weed, Company E. These boats were to immediately follow the preceding ones, to which they were to be attached by ropes, but this part of the arrangement was abandoned. The three left companies (K, G, and B) formed the third boat division, and were under my command; No. 11, Lieut. David Moses, Company K; No. 12, Sergeant Samson, Company K; No. 13, Sergeant Kenyon, Company E; No. 14, Capt. N. Pierson, Company G; No. 15, Second Lieutenant Burr, Company B; No. 16, Capt. R. W. Bannatyne, Company B; No. 17 being the boat assigned to me; 40 artillerymen, Third Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, which were assigned to Nos. 18 and 19, Captain Churchill and Lieutenant Bible; Colonel Hoyt having a light boat, No. 20.

Some of these boats were found to be unfit for use; consequently some changes were made, and there was not found transportation sufficient for a considerable portion of my boat division.

I was directed by Colonel Hoyt, after embarking my boat division, to proceed immediately to Paine's Dock, which I did. The tide being low I got stuck in the creek and was obliged to get out in order to get the boat off. Some time after arriving at Paine's Wharf the boats all started for Cumming's Point. I endeavored to keep my division together.

Soon after leaving Paine's Dock Colonel Hoyt ran his boat alongside of mine and informed me that my boats were getting in the advance and that they would get fast in the channel; by halting, threw my boats out of order upon reaching the point from which we were to start across. The expedition frequently halted, being uncertain as to its course. My boat division was to land immediately after the others and to run my boats between theirs.

At early daylight we found ourselves in front of Fort Simkins and on the left-hand side of the bar. The first intimation that I had of any bar being there was, while pulling well to the right to form my line of battle as directed, I ran upon this bar and found some difficulty in getting off. Other boats jamming into the channel obliged my boat to pass to the rear in getting off. The boats of both regiments were mixed together considerably. After getting off the bar I endeavored to get to the front in order to land on the beach, but found it impossible, as the channel was full of boats that were not moving on. I then asked my cockswain if he could get ashore from the marsh; he replied that it was impossible. Previous to this the enemy had discovered the advance boats, fired a signal gun, and opened upon the boats with musketry, grape, and canister, causing

great confusion among the boats. Only one boat, No. 6, First Lieut. Thomas E. Evans commanding, of the second boat division, landed. Had I been able to have reached the front I think the regiment would have landed, although the fire was heavy. The failure in landing the second boat division I cannot account for; they fell back without orders, as the bugle sound only was to have been the signal to retreat.

The following are the names of the cockswains and oarsmen of the different boats: No. 1, Lieut. Norman P. Farr commanding, all of Fifty-second except the cockswain; cockswain, Sergt. Robert Bennett, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers; oarsmen, Privates Thomas Cassiday, Jonas Miller, Thomas Ray, and Daniel W. Turner, Company A. No. 6, Capt. H. H. Jenks, all of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers; cockswain, Jonathan Davis, Company I, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers; oarsmen, Albert Seneff, Jeremiah James, Michael Cadden, Richard Davis, Company I. No. 7, Capt. W. S. Chatham; cockswain, W. W. Archer, sergeant Company H; oarsmen, Peter Weaver, P. Snedecor, William James, and Peter Connelly, Company H, all of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 8, Lieut. William V. Hollinsworth, Company C; cockswain, Private Michael O'Neil, Company H; oarsmen, John G. La France, John E. Perry, Charles Wagner, Martin Groner, Company H, all of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 9, Capt. John B. Fish, Company H; cockswain, Sidney B. Weed, Company E; oarsmen, Joseph L. White, Ezra O. Smith, Peter L. Vrooman, Alfred D. Finney, Company E, all of Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 10, Capt. H. D. Weed, Company E; cockswain, Corpl. Alva Dolph, Company K; oarsmen, Tryal Styles, Edmund Jones, Andrew Scutt, and Charles Rubeck, all of Company K, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 13, Capt. Nathaniel Pierson, Company G; cockswain, Corpl. Henry C. Mott, Company G; George Mack, William Long, and Henry Rummerfield, oarsmen, all of Company G, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 14, Sergt. George W. Samson, Company K; cockswain, Corpl. William H. Robbins, Company G; [oarsmen,] Alamanza De Camp, John Welch, William Carroll, and Edward H. Davis, all of Company G, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 15, Lieut. David Moses, Company K; cockswain, Private James Sweeney, Company B; oarsmen, Jonathan Jones, Joseph B. Maxwell, Jacob W. Sharp, Charles Livingston, privates Company B, all of Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 16, Capt. R. W. Bannatyne, Company B; cockswain, Private John J. Culberson, Company B; oarsmen, Nathaniel Josling, John G. Gilmartin, D. Shoemaker, Giles R. Wilcox, privates Company B, all of Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. No. 17, Maj. T. B. Jayne; cockswain, Private George H. Titus, Company B; oarsmen, John H. Riker, William H. Kishpaugh, J. F. Miller, Leander C. Low, privates Company B, all of Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers.

The numbers of boats' crews not included are those which were unfit for use.

I am, captain, very respectfully,

THOMAS B. JAYNE,

*Major Fifty-second Penn. Vols., Comdg. Third Boat Div.*

Capt. R. H. L. JEWETT,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



## No. 14.

*Report of Capt. Robert W. Bannatyne, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., August 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my command in the attack on Fort Johnson, S. C., July 3, 1864:

My boat was known as beach boat, in the line of attack as No. 16 boat, third division, which was commanded by Maj. Thomas B. Jayne, of Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. The names of the boat's crew were: Cockswain, John J. Culberson; oarsmen, N. Josling, J. G. Gilmartin, D. Shoemaker, G. R. Wilcox, all of Company B, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. The infantry force at my disposal was 1 sergeant, 5 corporals, and 16 privates, all of Company B, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. The number of men in the boat was 28, including myself. The men were loaded in the boats at the boat-infantry landing, and as fast as the boats were ready, they moved on to Paine's Dock, the final place of starting. In going to the dock my boat got aground, but was soon got off.

According to instructions received from Colonel Hoyt previous to starting, the boats were to leave Paine's Dock in a single line, one behind the other, and connected by a rope from the stern of the leading boat to the bow of the next boat in the rear. We were to go by the bar that runs out from Battery Simkins, which course would bring us to the left and nearly opposite Fort Sumter. When the last boats of the line had passed the bar we were to turn by the left flank and pull straight to the beach near Fort Johnson, and at the same time to preserve the line of battle as near as possible. However, at a late hour this plan was changed and we were told by the colonel that we would pass the bar by a channel nearer James Island. We were to have one pilot, and he was to be in the leading boat, and the other boats were to follow him in line, one behind the other, as near as possible, and on this plan we started from Paine's Dock about 1 a. m. of July 3, 1864. Did not go but a short distance until the boats were out of their places; not being connected together it was impossible to keep in line in the darkness, and no talking being allowed except in a whisper. After going a short distance from Paine's Dock, Colonel Hoyt came alongside and said, "You are out of your place," to move up. I then pulled on until I found that I was certainly ahead of my place in line, when I lay to and then discovered that the boats were moving very slow, and it appeared to me as though the pilot could not find the passage through the bar. The tide was coming in and drifting us to the left. After some delay the boats moved on, but rather slow. I then pulled on until I found that I was ahead of my place, and then stopped. It then commenced to show daylight in the east. I then moved on slowly until several boats passed me and I saw that those ahead of me were passing the bar, and several were aground, or at least stopped, when I passed the bar. In passing my boat struck the bottom several times, but did not get hard aground. The channel was narrow and crooked and scarcely water to float our boats. Before I was fairly by the bar the enemy fired a gun from Johnson. At the report of the gun the cockswain threw himself down and lost the oar that he was steering the boat with. The stroke-oar was then

handed to him, and by the time he got the boat straightened up another shot was fired on us, when the cockswain again fell or dodged and lost the second oar and the boat lost its headway. I then ordered him down in the bottom of the boat, and directed First Sergt. William Vaughn to take his place, which he did, and handled the boat in a cool manner. We were then going toward Fort Johnson, but made slow progress on account of having only three oars to work with. Directly after the second gun they commenced firing on us with several guns, some 4 or 5 shots coming almost together. I was then moving straight toward the beach in front of Johnson, distant about 250 yards, when seeing the boats in front of me turning back, and looking to the rear I saw the boats in rear of mine were turning back, and not seeing any of the boat division commanders, nor knowing where they were, and being uncertain whether any of our boats landed or not, I did not think it proper to go any farther. I had previously heard the order to retreat, but did not know who gave it, whether an officer or not; did not consider it authority to retreat on. I then gave the order to retreat and returned to Paine's Dock. With the exception of the cockswain, the men behaved well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. BANNATYNE,

*Captain, Fifty-second Penn. Vols., Comdg. Co. B.*

Lieut. DAVID MOSES.

*Acting Adjutant.*

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No. 15.

*Report of Lieut. Philo M. Burr, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., August 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part I took in the attack on Fort Johnson, S. C., July 3, 1864:

I was assigned to the command of the metallic boat, No. 15 in line, third division, under command of Maj. T. B. Jayne, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. While embarking, Lieutenant Moses' boat was disabled, and Colonel Hoyt ordered him to get into No. 15. There being no other boat, I got into No. 17 with Major Jayne.

The names of the crew were as follows: Cockswain, George H. Titus; oarsmen, John H. Riker, L. C. Low, J. F. Miller, William H. Kishpaugh, all of Company B, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. There were 17, all told, in the boat; 8 of the infantry were of Company B, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1 from Company C, and the sergeant-major of the regiment. Major Jayne and myself, while going to Paine's Dock, were compelled to get out of the boat and lift it over the bar once. We remained at the dock until about 1 a. m., when we started toward Fort Putnam in order. It was quite difficult to keep our places, owing to the darkness and the boats not being connected. When nearly opposite the mouth of Wagner Creek we turned toward Fort Johnson. We passed several boats and met Colonel Hoyt. He told Major Jayne he was too far in advance, and that he must get with his division, which he did. We moved on some way, when the boats stopped again. We came

up and found that some of the boats were aground on the bar nearly in front of Battery Simkins, and some were going toward Johnson. By this time the alarm had been given, and the enemy opened on us with artillery and musketry. We tried to pass the boats but could not on either side. Some one gave the order to retreat. I do not know who it was. In a short time all the boats turned back to Paine's Dock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. BURR,

*Second Lieut. Company B, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Vols.*

Lieut. DAVID MOSES,

*Acting Adjutant.*

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No. 16.

*Report of Capt. Walter S. Chatham, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CAMP FIFTY-SECOND REGT. PENNSYLVANIA VOLS.,

*Morris Island, S. C., August 9, 1864.*

ADJUTANT: I have the honor to report that on the night of the 2d July, 1864, I embarked in boat No. 7 (Col. H. M. Hoyt's boat division), in the creek near the left batteries. I had on board the boat 35 men of my company (C, Fifty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers) and 5 men of company H (boat crew). Arrived at Paine's Dock about 11 p. m.; halted there until about 2 a. m. the morning of the 3d, and then took my place in the line, and moved toward the point at Fort Putnam. Here there was another halt of perhaps half an hour, the boats running together, when we again made a forward movement and pulled steadily for the batteries on the point of James Island. My boat being loaded heavily some of the lighter-draught boats passed me, so that I was unable to keep my place in the line. In coming up to, or a short distance above, Simkins I counted the boats on my right, commencing on the extreme right, back six boats, so as to enable me to land at my proper place in the line. Arriving at that point (I should judge about 100 yards above Simkins) there was a signal gun fired from the island. I immediately ordered my boat to make a landing on the beach, and running in when the enemy's batteries opened. One of my oarsmen backed water with his oar and turning the boat parallel with the beach, heading toward the boats on the right. My cockswain again headed the boat to the beach. I then told this oarsman that if he again disobeyed his order I would shoot him.

Then again gave the order to give way and ran my boat ashore. At this time some one of the boats on my right crossed my bow and hailed my boat, at the same time that the order was to retreat. I asked who had given the order. The answer was, the major. Knowing the commanding officer was not a major, I gave the order to proceed to the shore, when my cockswain called my attention to the fact that boats were retiring. I put my boat about, ran back, and disembarked at the place of embarkation. I did not know until an hour or two after arriving in camp that any of our boats had made a landing.



The names of my boat's crew are as follows: Sergt. W. W. Archer, Company H, cockswain; Peter Weaver, P. Snedcor, William James, and Peter Connelly, Company H, oarsmen.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. S. CHATHAM,

*Captain, Comdg. Co. C, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Vols.*

Lieut. DAVID MOSES,

*Acting Adjutant.*

### No. 17.

*Report of Lieut. William V. Hollingsworth, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

#### CAMP FIFTY-SECOND REGT. PENNSYLVANIA VOLS.,

*Morris Island, S. C., August 9, 1864.*

ADJUTANT: I have the honor to report that on the night of the 2d July, I embarked in the boat No. 8, Col. H. M. Hoyt's boat division, in the creek near the left batteries. I had on board the boat 7 men of Company C, 12 of Company H, 9 color guards (my boat being the color-boat), and 5 boat's crew, all of the Fifty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. I arrived at Paine's Dock about 12 p. m., and took my place in the line about 2.30 a. m., the morning of the 3d; pulled up to Wagner Creek and halted about fifteen minutes; then started for the point of Fort Putnam, arrived there about 3 a. m., and halted about ten minutes, when the command "Forward" was given, at which time my boat got entangled with some of the boats of the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers and of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, when Capt. J. B. Fish, of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, told me that Captain Fish would hold me responsible for my boat moving forward; to which I replied, "I will move as soon as I get orders where to go to;" to which he, Captain Fish, answered, "Follow the boats ahead." I then ordered my men to pull ahead, which they did; arrived at Simkins' Point at daybreak, when I commenced pulling round the point, and when within about 300 yards of Fort Johnson one of the boats ahead backed water and ran across the bow of my boat, and shoved me out in the stream. I then got straightened up as soon as I possibly could, and made another attempt to land, when the order "Retreat" was given. I looked round and saw that the boats were all retiring. I then ordered my boat's [crew] to pull for Fort Putnam, which they did. When I arrived near the point of Fort Putnam, I changed my course and returned to the place of embarkation. I did not know that any of our boats had made a landing until after I returned to camp.

The names of my boat's crew are as follows: Private M. O'Neil, Company H, cockswain; Privates John G. La France, John E. Perry, C. Wagner, Martin Groner, oarsmen.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. V. HOLLINGSWORTH,

*First Lieut. Company C, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Vols.*

Lieut. DAVID MOSES,

*Acting Adjutant Fifty-second Pennsylvania Vols.*

## No. 18.

*Report of Capt. Hannibal D. Weed, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CAMP FIFTY-SECOND REGT. PENNSYLVANIA VOLS.,  
Morris Island, S. C., August 9, 1864.

ADJUTANT: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by me in the assault made on Fort Johnson on the morning of the 3d of July, 1864:

I was in command of pontoon No. 10, being the last boat of center division, commanded by Colonel Hoyt, and having a crew of 30 men, 1 cockswain, Corporal Dolph, Company K; oarsmen, Styles, Jones, Scutt, Rubeck, all of Company K; total, 35; embarking at the boat infantry [landing] about 10 p. m., ran to Paine's Dock and waited the arrival of the balance of the boats. The expedition left Paine's Dock about 12 p. m. I followed in the rear of No. 9 boat, commanded by Captain Fish.

The expedition came to a halt opposite Fort Gregg. Colonel Hoyt came along the line of boats and gave the order to advance. We then moved on, but not in regular order, the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers and One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers being badly mixed; sometimes could hardly tell them apart. Between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning found us near the rebel works on James Island. A portion of the expedition then came to a halt. I was at that time lost from Captain Fish's (No. 9) boat; saw the color-boat (No. 8), commanded by Lieutenant Hollingsworth, and ordered my men to row to them; on getting to them I found they were moving toward the shore. I followed in their rear; my boat got jammed among some other boats. I then lost sight of the color-boat; we were at that time near Johnson's Point. I think there was at that time ten or eleven boats in the advance of mine. I passed the point, followed by Captain Pierson. I was at that time about 50 yards from shore, but all of 250 yards from where Colonel Hoyt must have landed. The rebel signal was soon fired, and I ordered my men to pull for shore, which order they were cheerfully obeying when orders came from the front to retreat, but who gave the order I cannot say. I asked several times who gave the order, but got no reply. The boats at this time in front of me had turned and were retreating. I gave orders for my boat to turn and follow. I did not know at that time there were any of our men on shore.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

H. D. WEED,

*Captain, Fifty-second Regt. Penn. Vols., Comdg. Co. E.*

Lieut. DAVID MOSES,

*Acting Adjutant Fifty-second Penn. Vols.*

## No. 19.

*Report of Capt. Nathaniel Pierson, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CAMP FIFTY-SECOND PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS,  
Morris Island, S. C., August 9, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that on the day of the 2d of July, ultimo, I left camp with 174 men for the purpose of an as-

sault on Fort Johnson, and my company was assigned to boats named repaired boat and ship-boat, and the balance in number was to go to Company B, metallic boat.

I had orders to select 4 oarsmen and 1 cockswain for each of the two boats, but when I got to the dock Colonel Hoyt told me that the boats did not hold as many as had been anticipated, and the boats that had been assigned to me had to be given to other parties, but he would furnish me boats if I would go down to the other dock, meaning the one to the right of the causeway or foot-bridge. I went there and found no boats. When Major Jayne called for me I went to him and he told me I might take that boat, pointing to one under the bridge, and ordered me to get a boat's crew and take what men I could and follow Company K. I then detailed Corpl. H. C. Mott cockswain, and George Mack, William Long, and Henry Rummerfield as oarsmen, Sergeant Shepherd, who was slightly wounded in the knee by a musket ball from Fort Simkins, and 8 men accompanying me, leaving on the dock 48 men for whom transportation could not be furnished.

We left the dock about midnight and Paine's Wharf about 2 a. m., July 3, and arrived in front of Fort Johnson about daybreak, when there was a terrific fire opened from the several forts on James Island. My boat at the time was close to Company E, Captain Weed. While lying there waiting orders, word came from the right "to fall back; we cannot stand this." I inquired by what order, but we were near about run down by other boats, when we, out of sheer compulsion, were obliged to fall back. I could not and did not know that a single boat had landed until we got back to camp.

I would further say that I was in the third division of the regiment under the command of Major Jayne.

Yours, truly,

N. PIERSON,

*Captain, Fifty-second Penn. Vols., Comdg. Co. G.*

Lieut. D. MOSES,

*Acting Adjutant Fifty-second Penn. Vols.*

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No. 20.

*Report of Capt. Harry H. Jenks, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CAMP FIFTY-SECOND REGT. PENNSYLVANIA VOLS.,

*August 9, 1864.*

SIR: In compliance with instructions, I would respectfully report that I commanded the fifth boat in the assault of Fort Johnson on the morning of 3d July. The crew were from my company, viz: Cockswain, Jonathan Davis, Company I; stroke oar, Albert Seneff; oarsmen, Jeremiah James, Michael Cadden, Richard Davis, all of Company I.

My boat carried 41 men, viz, 30 of my company, 5 of Company D, 1 cockswain, 4 oarsmen, and myself. Being so heavily loaded I



could not keep my place in the line; several of the boats lighter loaded passed me. When the firing commenced my men behaved well. I kept my boat moving forward until I was certain of having reached my place, as all the boats that had passed me had turned back, the last, carrying the colors, being the last to turn. I then saw it was folly to go ahead, as all the other boats were going back, and ordered my boat "put about," and the cockswain to run for Fort Putnam. At the time my boat was put about there was no boat nearer Johnson than mine, except those which I afterward heard had landed. Mine was the first boat of Col. H. M. Hoyt's division.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HARRY H. JENKS,

*Captain Co. I, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Vols.*

Maj. THOMAS B. JAYNE.

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No. 21.

*Report of Lieut. David Moses, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry,  
of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CAMP FIFTY-SECOND PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS,

*Morris Island, S. C., August 9, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by me in the assault on Fort Johnson on the morning of July 3, 1864:

I was assigned to boats Nos. 12 and 13, but after getting to the dock and commencing to embark the boat I was assigned to sank, so I had to take another boat, which I understand was No. 15. I had neither of the boats Nos. 12 and 13. The boat I was in leaked very badly and was half full by the time I reached Paine's Wharf. I had neither of the boat crews first assigned to me, owing to the change that had taken place.

The crew of No. 15 was from Company B, of our regiment. Their names are as follows: Cockswain, Private James Sweeney; oarsmen, Privates Jonathan Jones, Joseph B. Maxwell, Jacob W. Sharp, Charles Livingston.

I was in the third division, under your command, and started from Paine's Wharf about 2 o'clock in the morning for Fort Johnson, on James Island.

The first intimation I had of the retreat was hearing considerable noise and howling in different parts of the line, and seeing boats passing back in the direction we came.

When I put my boat about, the boat with colors was passing me on its way back.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID MOSES,

*Second Lieut. Co. K, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Vols.*

Maj. THOMAS B. JAYNE,

*Commanding Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry.*

## No. 22.

*Report of Capt. John B. Fish, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry,  
of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CAMP FIFTY-SECOND PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS,  
*Morris Island, S. C., July 8, 1864.*

MAJOR: In compliance with instructions, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by me in the recent attack on Fort Johnson:

My instructions from headquarters were that I should furnish two boat crews, one to No. 7 and one to No. 8 boats, 12 of my men to go in the former and 30 in the latter. All of the boats were to maintain their position in line, and to secure this they were to be provided with ropes, which was not done.

When I embarked my men occupied boats Nos. 8 and 9. As soon as they were loaded I pulled for Paine's Wharf, and took my position in rear of boats already there. After waiting there about three hours the boats ahead began to move off, I following in my place. After moving out, the boats in advance stopped, and some of the rear boats came up and passed.

At this time all stopped moving, except with the tide, and the order of line was entirely broken. In this condition we were delayed about one hour, when the advance boats moved on again quite rapidly.

I remained behind No. 8 boat, and then found that I was behind my place in line, and called to the officer in command of No. 8 boat that I should hold him responsible for keeping his place in line; after which I did not wait for No. 8 boat, but pulled as fast as possible for Johnson's Point, passing many boats and running against others.

In passing Johnson's Point we ran aground. I then heard the sentinel on shore challenge and fire his piece. We were delayed but a moment on the bar, but found the channel and pulled rapidly down the shore. Soon after passing the bar the first gun was fired from the fort. I used every effort to reach the shore, when we ran into two or three boats that were turned from shore. In the collision my boat was injured and my hand somewhat bruised. I then inquired why they were not making shore, and was answered that all were going back, and at this time a light boat passed, the occupants saying, "Retreat." The party I did not know. I replied that there was no retreat unless the bugle sounded. Some man in my boat said the bugle had sounded, which caused me to hesitate. I then inquired if any of our boats had landed, and was answered that none had landed. I saw two boats on shore, and asked if they were not our boats. I could not believe that the bugle had sounded without my hearing it, so made an effort to rally the boats around me, but without avail. All boats at this time were going back or not going forward. I ordered my oarsmen to pull for shore and set the example.

At this time I heard a cheer from the fort and supposed it was the rebels exulting over our defeat. The boats were put about without my orders. Feeling now that all was lost, I ordered the boat run for Gregg, bearing off toward Sumter to avoid the bar and crowd of boats. As we were on our return I heard two

heavy volleys of musketry in our rear beyond Fort Johnson, when the musketry suddenly ceased, which was followed by cheers, which I am confident was from the rebels.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. FISK,

*Captain, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers.*

Maj. THOMAS B. JAYNE,

*Commanding Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers.*

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No. 23.

*Report of Lieut. Norman P. Farr, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

CAMP FIFTY-SECOND REGT. PENNSYLVANIA VOLS.,

*Morris Island, S. C., August 9, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to orders from headquarters I have the honor to submit the following report:

I had one boat's crew selected, Sergeant Bennett, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, cockswain; Privates Thomas Cassiday, Jonas Miller, Thomas Ray, and Daniel W. Turner, oarsmen; and the following-named men of Company A, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, viz: Sergt. N. B. Hedden, Sergt. I. E. Finch, Sergt. J. S. Linn, Corpls. Thomas W. Aregood, J. B. Russell, Peter Allabach, S. W. Taylor, and Privates Henry Barnes, John Brown, James Brown, F. E. Carman, George B. Carey, James Countrymen, Lewis Cilfris, William Cilfris, William T. Delzell, George S. Dash, Frederick H. Deicil, Samuel Everett, F. Grumm, George Greenawalt, John Huntsman, Henry Hopes, William Hypher, Michael Keef, Daniel Learch, F. S. Lape, Henry S. Mast, Thomas McGail, William L. Millham, N. P. Morgan, John F. Miller, Albert J. Meeker, George S. Peirce, Lorin D. Rozell, P. Riter, F. Souder, William Simons, John M. Taylor, John R. Wiley, E. O. West.

I embarked in the No. 1 boat of the first division, Fifty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, and was to take the lead and maintain that position if possible. If anything should happen that the leading boats should get fast on those mud bars the other boats were to pass. We embarked at the left batteries, about 10 p. m., and proceeded to Paine's Dock. We lay there until 2 a. m. July 3, when I was ordered by Lieutenant-Colonel Conyngham to start out on the advance. I started, and when about half way between Paine's Dock and Fort Putnam my boat struck on the bar. The next boat came up and I told them I was fast, and if they came on they would get fast. Colonel Conyngham was in the boat, and came up alongside, but did not run aground, his boat being lighter draught than mine. He said he could not pass me, as I had the guide with me. I told him the tide would float me off in a few minutes, and it did. I passed on to the point where we were to turn to the left, made the turn, went about 50 yards, when I was halted by Colonel Conyngham. He said he was not going to charge those works with two or three boats, and said we should fall back near the shore and wait there for the remainder of the boats to come up. I



lay there some time, near thirty minutes, when I started on my own responsibility. I noticed my cockswain made very bad work steering the boat. I inquired the cause and he said he could not steer it. When we got about half way to the bar he told the oarsmen to lay on their oars, for he wanted to see Colonel Hoyt. I urged them to pull away. About that time Colonel Hoyt came up and passed me; said something. I did not understand what. I got along near the bar and ran aground on the left-hand side of the channel. Colonel Hoyt came past me again from the rear. Sergeant Bennett said we could not pass over the bar yet, as the tide was not high enough. Colonel Hoyt said, "Come on, Farr." About this time we found the channel and passed through it. I shoved my boat off, and the cockswain struck it on the other side. The No. 2 boat, the color-boat, and one or two other boats passed me. I got my boat off again and told the steersman to take Colonel Hoyt's boat for a guide and run the boat ashore as soon as possible. We got under headway, and did well for some distance, only he ran more to the left than I intended, but did not interfere as long as we were going toward shore. I had got within 25 or 30 yards of the shore and about 100 yards to the left of Johnson, as near as I could judge, when the signal gun was fired. The steersman turned my boat square to the right and a little to the rear and ran the boat opposite Fort Johnson, a little to the right of the place where Colonel Hoyt landed. By this time the fire was very heavy and caused considerable excitement among the men. I got the boat headed for the shore twice but could make no headway. I saw Colonel Hoyt land and two or three boats. I am certain I saw the colonel and No. 2 boat go ashore. In that time I saw two or three boats very near the shore. I am pretty certain that the color-boat was so near that it struck bottom. They shoved back and started for the rear. My men heard others say, "They are all falling back," and they fell back, too. I lay the whole fault to the cockswain that I had. I never saw a man more frightened than Sergeant Bennett, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers. I think it was his intention to delay the boats until daylight, thinking the expedition would be abandoned. I certify that this is as true and correct a report as I can make of the assault made on Fort Johnson on the morning of July 3, 1864.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NORMAN P. FARR,

*First Lieut., Fifty-second Penn. Vols., Comdg. No. 1 Boat.*

Lieut. DAVID MOSES,

*Actg. Adj. Fifty-second Penn. Vols.*

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No. 24.

*Report of Maj. Edward H. Little, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Infantry, of assault on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

HDQRS. 127TH REGIMENT NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,

*Morris Island, S. C., July 3, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report:

In compliance with verbal orders received, I embarked the One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers on the night of the 2d instant, between the hours 10 and 12. At 1.30 this a. m. we

were all in position at Paine's Dock. It was arranged between Colonel Hoyt and myself that his regiment should lead the advance, moving by the right flank, and when he (Colonel Hoyt) had gained sufficient ground to the right he would flank to the left in line of battle toward the works on Johnson's Point. I was to continue moving by the right flank, passing to the rear of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania, and when I had gained sufficient ground to the right to get all my boats in line beyond the bar I was to flank to the left and advance toward Simkins. With this understanding the boats left Paine's Dock at 2 a. m. I had formed the regiment into three divisions of five boats each, Captain Gurney commanding the right, Captain Allison the center, and Captain Henry the left. Each chief of division had a lieutenant in his boat and each of the other boats was commanded by a commissioned officer and ordered to follow their division leaders. My own boat contained, besides myself, the adjutant, sergeant-major, a bugler, and signalman, 4 oarsmen, and a cockswain.

Before we reached the mouth of Vincent's Creek I found that Captains Gurney and Henry's divisions had passed ahead of eight or ten of the boats of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania. I ordered them to halt and allow the Fifty-second Pennsylvania to pass. Soon after the line halted I went forward to see what the trouble was, and found that the boat immediately in advance of the boat containing the major of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania had halted without cause and was between 200 and 300 yards in rear of its file leader. I asked the major if he was aware that the boat ahead of him had stopped; I forget what answer he made, but soon after the line moved on slowly. When near Fort Putnam the line filed to the left and advanced a short distance and again halted. I went forward to see what the matter was, and again found that a number of the boats of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania had halted without cause. While urging them to move on, Colonel Hoyt came from the right of the line and ordered them to move on faster, saying that the other boats were half a mile ahead. Again the line moved on somewhat faster. At this time day began to break. In about ten minutes afterward I discovered that a large number of boats were congregated together, some of them with their oars locked, none of them trying to move forward. I found that they had inclined too much to the left, and were south and east from the bar that juts out from Simkins and close to the land. On the other side of the bar I saw two or three boats moving toward Johnson's Point. There was a narrow break in the bar through which the boats could pass.

I ordered all the boats of the One hundred and twenty-seventh that I found there to go through the break as fast as possible and land with the boats ahead. Among this group of boats I found the major of the Fifty-second. I said, "Major Jayne, why don't you exert yourself, and order your boats to move forward?" I cannot remember what reply he made; some one in his boat said that they were awaiting orders, or that somebody wanted to give orders. I asked if the colonel or lieutenant-colonel was there. I could get no answer. About 100 yards in rear of this group I saw a boat that looked like the one used by Colonel Gurney; thinking he was aboard, I rowed out to it. I found it contained Lieutenant Haviland, who was acting as aide to Colonel Gurney. I asked him where Colonel Gurney was. He said Colonel Gurney was at Paine's Dock. I told him that the boats would not move forward. He said,

"Shall I tell Colonel Gurney that the movement is a failure?" to which I made no reply, but went back to the boats. I called to the officers of the boats and asked them to land their men; just then the rebels fired their signal gun and immediately opened with their batteries. I called to them again to land; that it was their only chance to save themselves. Some of the boats moved forward through the break in the bar as if to land. Soon after the signal gun was fired the rebels opened a musketry fire from Simkins, which rapidly increased in volume, but without much effect, as we were about 250 yards from the works. When I saw that the boats showed a disposition to land I ordered my boat to pass through the break in the bar in order that I might land above Simkins. As I was moving forward a pontoon got foul of my boat and crowded it against the bank. At this time the rebels fired very rapidly, and were sweeping the beach with grape and canister from a gun at Johnson. I could not see a man or boat on the beach, but as far as I could see to the right the boats were retreating from the beach and heading toward Sumter. Concluding that the movement had been a failure, and that the order to retreat had been given by Colonel Hoyt, who I judged to be on the right, I ordered my boat to go about. I then found all the boats that were behind me were in full retreat, excepting Captain Henry's pontoon, which had previously landed on the marsh in front of Simkins, and were still firing at the rebels behind that work. When they found that the attack had been abandoned they took to their boat and got off without the loss of a man. I ordered my boat to head for Fort Putnam and finally went into Vincent's Creek and landed at Strong, as my oarsmen had been constantly at work from the time the troops commenced to embark.

If the proper spirit had been shown, if the efforts of the colonel and lieutenant-colonel of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania had been properly supported, I think the movement would have been a success. For my own regiment, I can say that both officers and men obeyed promptly and cheerfully all the orders I gave them.

Following is a list of casualties in my command: Private Lake, Company A, contusion on shoulder from shell; Sergeant Wells, Company G, arm, slight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD H. LITTLE,  
*Major, Commanding Regiment.*

Capt. R. H. L. JEWETT,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 25.

*Reports of Col. William W. H. Davis, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding brigade, of destruction of blockade-runner Presto, and operations July 1-6.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Morris Island, S. C., February 6, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, the part taken by the Morris Island



batteries in the destruction of the steamer *Presto*, which attempted to enter the harbor of Charleston on the night of the 1st instant:

After passing safely through the fleet, she struck on a bar on the Sullivan's Island shore, between Forts Beauregard and Moultrie. She was discovered to be aground at reveille on the morning of the 2d, when the three 30-pounder Parrotts in Fort Putnam were immediately opened upon her. The first 3 shells (time fuse) burst over her, driving away the men who were engaged in discharging the cargo. At 8 a. m. the 300-pounder Parrott in Battery Chatfield was opened upon the steamer with good effect, 1 shell striking the furnaces. About this time two monitors moved up and commenced firing at long range, most of their shots passing over or falling short. Fort Strong opened soon after, firing a shell every fifteen minutes from the 200-pounder Parrott until 7 p. m. A 100-pounder Parrott at Strong was opened at noon and continued to fire until daylight the next morning. The fire of this gun, with that of the two 30-pounders in Putnam, prevented the rebels from getting any of her cargo during the night. She was set on fire about noon and burned for two hours. During the afternoon her mainmast was cut away by a shell from our batteries. On the morning of the 3d, the 200-pounder at Fort Strong threw 15 shells at the wreck, of which 5 struck the hull. The vessel was again set on fire in the afternoon by the 30-pounder Parrotts in Putnam and burned until dark. The fire was kept up from the 30-pounders through the night of the 3d and morning of the 4th until daylight, to prevent anything being taken from the wreck. The iron-clads kept up a fire during the 2d, 3d, and 4th, but with little accuracy. The night of the 4th, the rebels constructed a foot bridge from the shore to the wreck, and since then I have caused a shell to be fired at intervals to prevent their obtaining any of her cargo or other articles which may not have been destroyed.

While our batteries were shelling the steamer on the morning of the 2d, the rebel batteries on Sullivan's and James Islands kept up a heavy fire. They threw 400 shells, which burst in and around our batteries, wounding 2 of the Third Rhode Island Artillery.

During the 2d, 3d, and 4th, 769 projectiles were thrown at the steamer from our batteries, of which Chatfield threw 34 300-pounder shells; Fort Strong, 74 200-pounder shells and 86 100-pounder; and Fort Putnam, 535 30-pounder shells. The distance of the steamer from the batteries is as follows: From Fort Strong, 3,600 yards; from Battery Chatfield, 2,700 yards, and from Fort Putnam, 2,600. The vessel is a complete wreck; she was a side-wheel steamer.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. H. DAVIS,

*Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. Post.*

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DAVIS' BRIGADE,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., July 14, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my brigade in the late expedition to John's Island down to the time I was wounded and obliged to go to the rear:

The brigade, composed of the One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fifty-seventh and One hundred

and forty-fourth New York Volunteers, embarked at Hilton Head on steamers on Friday afternoon, the 1st of July, and left the harbor about sunset. Upon opening the sealed instructions given me before starting, I found my destination to be North Edisto, and accordingly steamed in that direction. We arrived off the bar at 2 a. m., but were obliged to wait until daylight before we could cross. Entering the mouth of the river I disembarked my brigade at Seabrook soon after sunrise, and by order of Brigadier-General Hatch, commanding, pushed forward to Haulover Cut, 5 miles from the landing, at the point where we were to cross to John's Island. The One hundred and forty-fourth New York Volunteers had the advance, and when they arrived at the cut, they found a small body of rebel cavalry there, which retired without disputing the passage. Colonel Slidell threw out skirmishers and secured the approaches on the side of the enemy. The bridge across the cut had been destroyed some time before, and until it should be repaired neither artillery nor wagons could cross over. On reaching that point with the other two regiments of the brigade, I set my pioneer corps at work to rebuild the bridge, in charge of Quartermaster Lehn, of the One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and in less than four hours they built a bridge of 66 feet span, with two abutments and two piers, of sufficient strength to pass artillery and cavalry. General Hatch joined the advance in the afternoon, but toward evening returned to Seabrook. I made the best disposition possible for the safety of the command and the night was passed without alarm.

During the night two regiments of General Saxton's brigade came up, and in the morning the third regiment and the battery reported. General Hatch returned to the front at daylight and assumed the direction of the expedition. The troops advanced at about 8 a. m., my brigade leading, and bivouacked on the main road, about 4 miles from Haulover Cut, near a place called Parker's. We reached there about 11 o'clock, Saxton's brigade coming up about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. We remained there all night. Soon after halting an officer with a small body of cavalry reported to me that there were four pieces of artillery and 200 infantry at a point about 4 miles to our right, which General Schimmelfennig had sent to re-enforce us.

I marched the next morning, the 4th instant, at 5 o'clock, taking the right-hand or lower road, which covered more securely our new base of supplies, which had been transferred to the Stono. The day was unusually hot and sultry, and the men suffered severely from the dust and heat. We reached the point where the road branches to the right to go to Legareville about noon, and halted there for the day. Surgeon Robinson, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, during the march, unfortunately fell into the hands of the enemy. Leaving the camp after the brigade had marched, he took the wrong road and rode into the enemy's lines before he was aware of it. Company G, of the same regiment, following as rear guard, also got off the road and encountered the enemy's skirmishers, but effected its return to the regiment without any loss. A few of the enemy's vedettes were seen on the march and wounded 1 cavalryman in the ankle.

The next day we marched about 5 miles, near to a point known as the Huts, which the advance reached about 9 o'clock. This was found to be a strong position, with an impassable swamp on our right flank and front, and it was concluded to advance no farther. After securing the crossing I sent skirmishers to the front and

seized the woods and open country for about three-fourths of a mile. During the afternoon a force of some 200 of the enemy showed themselves in our immediate front on both sides of the main road. As there were indications of an advance on their part, I sent out Captain Laughlin, of the One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, with a detachment of sharpshooters, who quickly drove them from the hedges and ditches they were behind to the woods a half mile beyond. To make my position secure for the night, I placed two Napoleon guns in battery at the bridge, and dug a line of rifle-pits from the road to the edge of the swamp covering our left and rear. General Hatch and staff came to the front shortly after dark, when he assumed command.

On Wednesday morning, the 6th instant, while at the picket-line examining the position of a piece of artillery the enemy had brought down and was using against us, I received a severe wound in the right hand by the explosion of a shell, which compelled me to go to the rear. I placed Col. P. P. Brown, One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, in command of my brigade, who will make a report of its subsequent operations. It affords me pleasure to return my thanks to Major Place, One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, and Lieutenant McCoy, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, serving on my staff, for their efficient assistance. Lieutenant-Colonel Bennett, One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, was temporarily attached to my staff, and I am also under many obligations to him. Before I left camp I organized a small battalion of sharpshooters, which I placed under the command of Captain Laughlin, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers. They rendered the most valuable assistance, and on every occasion the conduct of Captain Laughlin and his officers and men was marked with great gallantry.

I remain, very respectfully,

W. W. H. DAVIS,

*Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. Brig.*

Maj. E. L. ROGERS,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 26.

*Report of Col. Philip P. Brown, jr., One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Infantry, of expedition to John's Island and skirmishes.*

HEADQUARTERS 157TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 14, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: In compliance with circular received February 13, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part sustained by this regiment in the late expedition into Seabrook Island:

The One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers left camp on the evening of Sunday, February 7, with 173 armed men, 10 cooks, 4 stretcher-bearers, 10 pioneers, 3 hospital attendants, 3 detailed as orderlies; total, 203 men, commanded by 1 field, 2 staff, 3 line, and 4 acting officers; total force, 213. In accordance with orders from brigade headquarters, the regiment proceeded to Stono



Landing, where it arrived a little after 8 p. m. It was ferried across to Kiawah Island 12.30 o'clock the same night, and at once commenced march on the left of the brigade. It arrived at the Vanderhost plantation at daybreak, and bivouacked during the night at that place, in the same order in the brigade. March was resumed at 9 p. m., the regiment being third from the right. In this order it arrived at the Seabrook plantation in the early morning, when it was at once ordered to throw out skirmishers. Lieutenant Gates, with Company G and parts of Companies A and I, was detailed for that purpose, making a force of 40 men. Lieutenant Gates advanced under the direction of General Ames at 8.15 a. m., and was immediately met by a brisk fire from the rebel skirmishers, who had advanced from the woods and were charging over a rise of ground. They obtained possession of a line of hedge and ditch, but were speedily dislodged by our men, who drove them into the open field. Here our line was re-enforced by a body of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers, who deployed on our right. Colonel Harris, Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers, here took command, and the line advancing pushed the rebels into the woods and continued driving them from half a dozen positions, until a halt was ordered at the distance of about 2½ miles from the main force. Major Rice, One hundred and forty-fourth New York, had command at this time.

In the mean time the regiment had advanced with the brigade into the field of the first skirmish, having formed line of battle and rested. On the reception of orders the command was marched by the flank on the left of the brigade up the main road through the woods and field at the rear of the picket-line, already established by Major Rice, One hundred and forty-fourth New York Volunteers. Colonel Brown was then ordered to take command of the One hundred and seventh Ohio Volunteers, which, with his own regiment, was to form the left wing of the advance. The One hundred and seventh Ohio Volunteers were then ordered forward as skirmishers, the One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers following as a reserve. The line having advanced in this order over two wide fields, it was checked upon entering the third by a fire from the rebel skirmishers, who were strongly intrenched. This was communicated to General Ames, who ordered a cessation of the advance, and afterward the withdrawal of the line. Just before the line was checked parties were dispatched to search the buildings of a plantation near the river and destroy all arms found there. The line was withdrawn in good order. The regiment was then ordered to the rear, where it bivouacked behind the earth-works already alluded to. They were at once strengthened so as to form a ditch and parapet of considerable strength.

In this position the regiment remained from Tuesday afternoon until Thursday noon, February 11. It was then ordered, with the One hundred and seventh Ohio Volunteers and Seventy-fifth Ohio, to advance in support of columns already advanced. Marching by the flank, this force, under the direction of General Ames, proceeded along the left of the forest to within supporting distance of the skirmishers and batteries previously sent out. The regiment took no other active part in this day's operations until it was ordered at dusk to establish a chain of outposts to connect with those of the One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers on the extreme right. This was executed as speedily as possible, a line of about forty-five posts of 3 men each being established at intervals of 15 paces in

favorable positions, and a reserve of 30 kept in the rear. At midnight orders were received for the withdrawal of the line, which was effected noiselessly and in good order, and the regiment rejoined the brigade between 1 and 2 a. m. It then marched on the left of the brigade from the scene of action, and reached camp at 4 p. m., Friday, February 12.

I have to report William Pierce, Company I, mortally wounded in the skirmish of the first day, and J. Quick, Company I, not seriously; also M. B. Sheldon, missing (supposed to have strayed away on the last night to sleep). He is half-witted.

Our men report having seen 1 rebel captain killed (who was afterward decently interred) and 1 rebel wounded, besides several carried off by their comrades. They captured 3 rebels. One horse, 3 carbines, and 3 sabers were taken by us.

I have to transmit herewith the report of Lieutenant Gates, commanding our force of skirmishers.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. P. BROWN, JR.,

Colonel, Commanding 157th New York Volunteers.

Capt. J. M. BROWN,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Ames' Brigade.

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No. 27.

*Report of Lieut. Col. William Ames, Third Rhode Island Artillery, Chief of Artillery, Department of the South, of destruction of blockade-runner Flamingo.*

OFFICE CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
Morris Island, S. C., October 24, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that at daylight on October 23 a large side-wheel iron steamer with two smoke-stacks was discovered ashore opposite Battery Rutledge, Sullivan's Island, she having run on a shoal at that point during the night. This vessel was painted lead color, was very long, and appeared to be of light draught. She is probably of about 700 tons burden. The first shot fired at her was from the picket monitor; Fort Putnam opened at the same time with two 30-pounder Parrotts, striking her on the quarter at the second shot. This was the first shot that struck the blockade-runner from either army or navy. Battery Chatfield opened with a 300-pounder Parrott; the third shell from this gun passed through the starboard wheel-house into the vessel and exploded, tearing the wheel and wheel-house all away and breaking up a large portion of her works amidships. Fort Strong opened with three 100-pounders, striking her many times in the hull and on her decks. The navy also kept up a fire upon the vessel from two monitors, doing the steamer much damage.

The name of this vessel was the Flamingo; she was no doubt running into Charleston at the time of getting aground. She now lies a complete wreck. This vessel was distant from Fort Putnam 2,700 yards, from Battery Chatfield 2,600 yards, and from Fort Strong 3,500 yards.

The following amount of ammunition was expended in destroying this steamer: Fort Putnam, 30-pounder shell, 38; 24-pounder shell,

22. Battery Chatfield, 300-pounder shell, 7. Fort Strong, 100-pounder shell, 77. Total, 144. Ninety-eight of these shells struck the vessel.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. AMES,

*Lieut. Col. 3d R. I. Arty., Chief of Arty., Dept. South.*

Lieut. THOMAS J. ROBINSON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 28.

*Reports of General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, of operations January 14-April 19.*

CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
January 14, 1864—10 a. m.

Fire of enemy on city for last two days has been almost continuous, doing but little damage. Although averaging over 100 shots per day, only 1 person wounded. No firing on Sumter. Enemy's fleet at Port Royal still slightly on increase; two monitors there, three here, and one in Ossabaw.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

CHARLESTON, January 15, 1864.

(Received 16th.)

Nothing important to-day. Enemy threw yesterday 273 shells at city; over one-fourth fell short; some ranged nearly 5 miles. Two fires occurred; not much damage; nobody hurt. I leave to-morrow for Savannah; will return probably in one week.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

SAVANNAH, February 2, 1864.

Nothing important here. I return to-morrow to Charleston. Enemy has recommenced shelling Sumter, of course with little effect, bomb-proof being in excellent condition.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

CHARLESTON, February 8, 1864.

Enemy making a serious movement on Saint John's River, Fla., in force. Will do what I can with safety to Charleston and Savannah to repel him.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.



CHARLESTON, *February 8, 1864*—9 p. m.

Enemy's demonstration at Jacksonville, Fla., indicates intention to cut off our supplies from that quarter. Five thousand State troops in South Carolina and Georgia have just been discharged. Cannot their place be supplied from another source to enable me to send sufficient force to Florida without endangering Charleston and Savannah?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, *February 9, 1864*—11.16 a. m.

Have already sent General Finegan, from Savannah, two regiments infantry and one light battery, all I can spare. Am sending Colquitt's brigade from here to Savannah to replace them, and supply place of Georgia State troops lately discharged. Can't a brigade be sent to Florida temporarily from some other department? Our supplies in that State are becoming indispensable. I suppose enemy's movement is a feint to draw troops from South Carolina and Georgia.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON.

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CHARLESTON, *February 9, 1864*—1 p. m.

Enemy from Seabrook Island has driven back advanced pickets on John's Island; must stop part of Colquitt's brigade just leaving for Savannah. I can't guard from here to Florida, including, unless re-enforced temporarily.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, *February 9, 1864*—10 p. m.

General Finegan reports enemy having moved in large force cavalry and artillery from Jacksonville on Baldwin. General Gardner has been ordered to re-enforce him with all available troops. Force sent from Savannah has already been reported.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1864*—10.30 p. m.

General Wise reports enemy advancing on John's Island. Checked three and a half regiments of Colquitt's brigade, on their way to Savannah. Have been directed to support Wise. General Finegan reports enemy advancing on Lake City from Baldwin.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

CHARLESTON, *February* 11, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Governor Milton telegraphs following :

Enemy's force at least 5,000 strong. Not force enough in State to prevent him passing through it. Col. J. F. McClellan, West Florida, telegraphs for re-enforcements. Immense loss of subsistence for armies and of property seems inevitable. We need at least 5,000 additional troops.

Have sent Governor Milton all I can spare without risking loss of Charleston or Savannah. Cannot two brigades be ordered there from Northwest Georgia or North Carolina, temporarily?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, *February* 11, 1864—2 p. m.

General Finegan reports enemy about to attack him near Lake City. Rapidity of movements indicate Tallahassee as the objective point, probably to form junction with forces from the Gulf. I have ordered two and a half additional regiments and one light battery to Florida, to prevent loss of that State; but have much weakened thereby Savannah and railroad to that city. If one brigade could be sent here and another to Savannah, I would send immediately balance of Colquitt's troops to General Finegan. A prompt answer is desired, as well as for 2 general officers I applied for few days since.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February* 11, 1864—10 p. m.

General Finegan has repulsed enemy's advance force at Lake City; details not yet known. Prisoners report Gillmore relieved from command in my front; if so, he must be intended to command attack against Fort Gaines or Morgan.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

(Same sent General D. H. Maury, Mobile, Ala.)

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CHARLESTON, *February* 12, 1864—11 a. m.

General Finegan's success yesterday was very creditable, enemy's force being much superior to his own. His re-enforcements had not yet reached him owing to delays on road. Losses not yet reported.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, *February* 12, 1864.

General Wise gallantly repulsed the enemy last evening on John's Island. He is to-day in pursuit. Loss very trifling. Force of enemy about 2,000. Ours about one-half.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

CHARLESTON, *February* 12, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Enemy evacuated John's Island last night. All quiet in our front. Colquitt's brigade will proceed at once to Middle Florida. I will follow it soon if necessary.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

CHARLESTON, *February* 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.

(Received 20th.)

General Finegan reports ten regiments, at least one mounted, of enemy in his front. Am re-enforcing Finegan to utmost practicable extent. It is essential to have there in immediate command officer accustomed to handle troops in battle. General Hill has not arrived or been heard from. I propose to send General Taliaferro at once. He should be promoted; has earned it. I will go there in due season. Resources of that section too large and vital to be lost. General Gilmer has been directed, as instructed, to repair at once to Mobile.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

CHARLESTON, *February* 21, 1864.

Have sent General Taliaferro to Florida, and will go there myself at proper moment. I know him; have confidence in him; he should be promoted. I do not know enough of General Anderson to ask for him.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February* 21, 1864.

GENERAL: A gun-boat sunken off Battery Marshall. Supposed to have been done by Mobile torpedo-boat, under Lieut. George E. Dixon, Company E, Twenty-first Alabama Volunteers, which went out for that purpose, and which, I regret to say, has not been heard of since.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
*February* 22, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Enemy has merely withdrawn troops hence to ship to Georgia and East Florida, where he must be met in force or serious disaster will ensue. His superior means of rapid transportation give him great advantages in concentration of forces. Five deserters just report three brigades still on Morris, Folly, and Kiawah Islands. General Mercer reports this morning serious demonstrations in his front on Whitemarsh Island; also concentration of gun-boats in Satilla River, 30 miles from railroad communication with Florida line. I have effective force as you state, but dispersed from North



Carolina to Alabama line (of which over 6,000 are artillery in position), not one company of which can be withdrawn without exposure to enemy's penetrating lines of defense of Charleston or Savannah before I could concentrate to meet him. Over 6,000 are cavalry, 2,000 of which are in Florida; rest defending lines of communication between this and Savannah, and thence with Florida, so vital at this juncture; 3,000 are light and siege artillery, leaving about 15,000 infantry now in Florida or en route. Except barely enough for weakest possible supports and pickets for works on John's, Sullivan's, and James Islands and at Savannah, every man I can spare with hope of safety has been ordered to Florida and Savannah. I trust the handsome victory at Olustee, officially reported this morning, is but the earnest of what can be done to cripple the enemy in this department, and I shall then be in position to send General Johnston at least 8,000 troops of all arms at an early day.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

His Excellency President JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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CHARLESTON, *February 26, 1864.*

(Received 9.30, 27th.)

General Finegan reports yesterday that his advance forces had occupied Baldwin, enemy having retreated to Jacksonville. He will be dislodged if possible.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

No additional news from Florida. All quiet here; enemy shelling city as usual; damage slight. General Hill telegraphs he will be here to-morrow. I will leave same evening for Florida. General Anderson not yet reported. I do not know where he is.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

*General, Commanding.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adj. and Insp. Gen., Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 27, 1864.*

Prisoners report that it was the U. S. ship of war Housatonic, twelve guns, which was sunk on night 17th instant, by the submarine torpedo-boat, Lieutenant Dixon, of Alabama, commanding. There is little hope of safety of that brave man and his associates, however, as they were not captured.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

*General, Commanding.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adj. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.*

BALDWIN, *March 3, 1864.*

(Received 9.40, 4th.)

All quiet here at present; enemy has retreated to Jacksonville under cover of his gun-boats, where he is fortifying. His force is estimated at 12,000. He is reported receiving re-enforcements from New Berne, N. C. Our and enemy's pickets are now 7 miles from Jacksonville. Our main body, about 7,000 strong, is in rear of McGirt's Creek side, 6 miles back. The victory at Ocean Pond was complete, but pursuit, especially by cavalry, was unsatisfactory.\*

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 4, 1864.

Your estimate of enemy's force is considered excessive. No re-enforcements can reach him from New Berne without the evacuation of that place. He should be expelled from Florida by prompt and decided measures.

S. C.

HEADQUARTERS FORCES IN FIELD,  
*McGirt's Creek, March 5, 1864.*

(Received 10.40, 6th.)

All quiet here at present. The enemy reported receiving re-enforcements at Jacksonville; our pickets are 7 miles from there. Major-General Anderson has reported for duty.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

CAMP MILTON, NEAR MCGIRT'S CREEK, FLA.,

*March 7, 1864.*

All quiet here at present. General Gillmore is reported having left Jacksonville for Hilton Head on learning my arrival here, probably to make a demonstration against Charleston or Savannah. I have telegraphed Generals Jordan and Mercer to be prepared accordingly. Enemy's wounded taken at Ocean Pond represent twenty-eight regiments and battalions.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant-General, Richmond, Va.*CHARLESTON, *April 2, 1864—12 m.*

All quiet here. Enemy's forces reported gradually leaving Florida. Appear to be in our front; probably returning to their former positions, preparatory to future operations.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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\* For Beauregard's reports of engagement at Ocean Pond, &c., see p. 320.

CHARLESTON, *April 2, 1864.*

Major-General Anderson reports yesterday a large double-stack side-wheel steamer is sunk in Saint John's River, opposite mouth Doctor's Lake, 15 miles above Jacksonville, Fla., supposed to be Maple Leaf, which exploded a torpedo at 4 a. m. Torpedoes were laid by Capt. E. P. Bryan, sent for that purpose from here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *April 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

General Anderson telegraphs on 11th: Enemy, 15,000 strong, at Jacksonville and Palatka; deserters from Folly and Kiawah report forces increasing there, confirmed by new encampments visible.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *April 14, 1864.*

The demand here for troops is now so urgent, I must ask suspension until return of forces sent from South Carolina to Florida of paragraph 28, Order 22, disbanding certain troops in this vicinity. Please answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *April 16, 1864—6 p. m.*

General Anderson reports another steam transport of enemy destroyed on Saint John's River by a torpedo. Our scouts report Palatka evacuated.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *April 16, 1864—8.15 p. m.*

General Anderson reports to-day four transports loaded with troops left Jacksonville; have ordered him to return as soon as practicable troops sent to Florida. Enemy occupied Battery Island on Stono, near James Island, yesterday, but withdrew to-day.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant-General, Richmond, Va.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,

*Charleston, S. C., April 17, 1864.*

GENERAL: I send herewith two views of Fort Sumter, photographed by Mr. George Cook, of this city, from a very accurate drawing of the interior of that work made on the 9th December, 1863, by Lieut. John R. Key, post adjutant, C. S. Engineers, a young artist of great promise. The photographs have been delayed much longer than had been anticipated, by the want of proper materials and



instruments. The fort is now much stronger for defensive purposes than represented by these views, its interior being well arranged for musketry and light artillery fire. There are also four 10-inch columbiads, one 8-inch columbiad rifled, and two rifled 42-pounders, mounted in casemate, bearing on the pass toward Sullivan's Island and on Rebellion roads.

I remain, very truly, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War, with the views\* within referred to.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *April 17, 1864—8 a. m.*

Is it not likely enemy will operate from New Berne, on Goldsborough and Raleigh; if so, is it not advisable to concentrate about Goldsborough? Will my base be on Richmond or Wilmington?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General B. BRAGG,  
*Commander-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.*

—  
CHARLESTON, *April 19, 1864.*

Enemy is still strong in our front. Should he withdraw large force to concentrate in North Carolina, your suggestion can be carried out to extent of two brigades, but northwest portion of this State should be watched closely from expedition through North Carolina.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General S. COOPER.

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No. 29.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, of operations April 20–September 1.*

CHARLESTON, *April 20, 1864.*

Your telegram of to-day to General Beauregard received. There are movements of the enemy's troops now in progress, indicating that at least a serious demonstration will very soon be made at some point in this department. I earnestly ask that no other troops than those now under orders and moving be sent out of this department until the enemy's designs are more clearly developed.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER.

CHARLESTON, *April 21, 1864.*

(Received 7.35, 22d.)

The instructions conveyed in your letter of the 7th instant to General Beauregard, and reiterated in your telegram of to-day to me, shall be carried out, but the enemy is now making threatening demonstrations near the batteries manned by some of the companies named, and I beg that I may be allowed to retain them as they are for a few days and until I can communicate with you more fully on the subject.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *May 4, 1864.*

Two regiments of Wise's brigade have started for Richmond; the remainder will leave to-morrow. Colquitt's brigade will follow without delay. None of the troops ordered to me from General Johnston's army have arrived. I have only two regiments and one weak battalion, including Colonel Keitt's, on Sullivan's Island. No infantry on James Island, but one regiment of infantry between here and Savannah; there one regiment and two battalions, thirteen companies of infantry. I shall have to rely on artillery and cavalry for defense of department. The two cavalry regiments ordered from Virginia are not yet fit for duty. I will make the best arrangements possible under the circumstances, but if it be possible send me a few more regiments.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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CHARLESTON, *May 10, 1864.*

(Received 17th.)

General Anderson telegraphs me that another of the enemy's steamers was blown into fragments yesterday by a torpedo in the Saint John's, a short distance below Jacksonville. She had two guns aboard, and was towing a schooner. The latter escaped. Not known how many lives lost. This is the third steamer that has met this fate in the Saint John's within the last forty days.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *May 16, 1864.*

Your dispatch of to-day received. I have ordered General Anderson to form the whole of his infantry into one brigade, and send it to Richmond with the greatest possible dispatch, Brigadier-General Finegan commanding. The brigade will be small, and formed of battalions and unattached companies, but it is all I have in that

State. I greatly doubt if one-half of the men ordered will leave Florida. The order will cause desertions and disorganization. I have not an infantry brigade in this department.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., May 17, 1864.*

GENERAL: I received last night your telegram of yesterday directing me to send a good brigade of infantry from Florida to Richmond, Va., with the greatest expedition, selecting those troops most accessible. From the wording of your dispatch I must think you are not correctly informed of the number of troops in Florida. I send with this an abstract of returns, showing the total effective present in Florida. It will be seen that all the infantry there combined numbers but 1,698 total effective. It is made up of small battalions and unattached companies. From information I have I think it doubtful if one-half of the men ordered will leave Florida. I hope that in this I may be mistaken; at least it will be but a small and ill-organized brigade. I have, however, ordered Major-General Anderson to forward it with the greatest possible dispatch, with Brigadier-General Finegan in command.

I will add that I have not a brigade of infantry in this department, and I earnestly beg that not another man be ordered from this department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.  
*May 30, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to General Bragg.  
By order Adjutant and Inspector General:

H. L. CLAY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY C. S.,  
*June 1, 1864.*

Respectfully returned to Adjutant-General.

Brigadier-General Finegan has passed to the front with the most of his brigade. I know not whence it was drawn, but he told me it numbered 2,000 effective.

BRAXTON BRAGG,  
*General.*



[Inclosure.]

*Extract from return of the District of Florida, Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson commanding.*

Arm of service.	Effective total.	Total.	Aggregate.
Infantry.....	1,698	1,872	2,046
Light artillery.....	244	263	275
Cavalry.....	1,218	1,430	1,462
Total.....	3,160	3,565	3,783

Respectfully submitted.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
*Charleston, May 16, 1864.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *May 18, 1864.*

I think it proper, in view of the orders received last night, to inform you, and request you to inform the President, that the bombardment of Fort Sumter and this city has been recently resumed with renewed vigor, both by land and naval batteries. We have damaged their monitors, and I think seriously crippled two of them. A new admiral arrived this morning, and I presume they will renew their efforts to gain possession of the harbor. I am sure we can keep them off if we only keep the batteries manned and supported. The orders received last night will leave half the batteries on Sullivan's Island unmanned and all on Sullivan's and James Islands and Sumter unsupported.

If it can possibly be done, with due regard to the general interest of the cause, I beg that I may retain troops absolutely necessary until I can make other arrangements, which I can do in a few days. The Twelfth Georgia Battalion started this morning; the Eighteenth starts to-night.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *May 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General Finegan, with two battalions (600 strong) of his brigade, left here to-day about 12 o'clock for Richmond. The enemy has renewed his demonstration on James Island, and is firing rapidly now. I shall retain the Twentieth Regiment until to-morrow. It is very important that I should have a few more troops. Can I get any?

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General B. BRAGG,  
*Richmond, Va.*

CHARLESTON, *May 23, 1864.*

The enemy landed some four or five regiments yesterday morning on James Island, and made a demonstration on our works. They were checked and repulsed, and have retired. \* \* \* But to do it I had to detain one day the Twentieth South Carolina Regiment and two battalions of Florida infantry. They will go on now without delay. The Twentieth South Carolina and Florida battalions were on the point of taking the cars for Virginia. I think it fortunate that I had an opportunity of exhibiting their strength with only one day's delay.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *June 6, 1864.*

Bonaud's battalion has been detained at Savannah a few days because of the threatening aspect of affairs there. Night before last orders were telegraphed to General McLaws to send it on without delay, but yesterday General McLaws telegraphed that several gun-boats and an iron-clad had approached Beaulieu, and transports were seen going south from here (one, at least, with troops on board), and this morning the Ironsides and two other steamers have crossed the bar, apparently going south, probably to Savannah to look after the Water Witch, or make some attack. Can I retain Bonaud's battalion longer?

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,  
*Richmond, Va.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *June 14, 1864.*

Major-General Foster has recently assumed command of U. S. forces on this coast; is now on or near Folly Island. I suspect he will attempt some enterprise against us. A large transport landed troops on Folly Island yesterday. Spies and recent deserters have no doubt informed them of our weakness. Neither of the artillery companies ordered to me by Special Orders, No. 105, current series, from Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, have arrived; nor have I yet a man of the South Carolina reserves. Three artillery companies have been disbanded on James Island, and I cannot supply their places. This is a serious loss just at this time. This place will be in great danger if the enemy concentrates his troops on this coast against it. Can anything be done to aid me? Cannot General Johnston send me re-enforcements in a pressing emergency?

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General B. BRAGG.

CHARLESTON, *June 15, 1864.*

The movements of the enemy decidedly indicate an attack on some point near here. Troops are concentrating on Folly Island. My

force is not only entirely too small for the protection of Charleston and Savannah and the railroad connecting them, but some of the troops cannot be relied on. A part of a guard near Savannah overpowered the others yesterday and escaped to Fort Pulaski. Many men of the First South Carolina regiment artillery and Lucas' battalion firmly believe that they are held in service illegally and are greatly dissatisfied, and desertions to the enemy are frequent. General McLaws considers the whole garrison of Fort Bartow unsound. I cannot place reliance in them. I beg that 2,000 infantry be sent me for service here and 1,000 for service at Savannah. With that additional force I believe I can hold the places against the force in my front. If not re-enforced serious disaster may soon occur. I have received no reserve force. Please bring this to the attention of the President and reply.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *July 4, 1864.*

On the morning of the 2d instant the enemy landed several regiments on south end of James Island, supported by two monitors and several gun-boats in the Stono, and after a sharp skirmish captured 2 field pieces and commenced intrenching. At the same time several gun-boats and transports with troops came up the North Edisto. At early dawn yesterday from 700 to 1,000 men in barges attacked Fort Johnson and were handsomely and thoroughly repulsed, with the loss to the enemy of 140 prisoners, with their arms and accouterments and 5 barges, and many killed and wounded. Our loss very slight. The enemy on south end of James Island fell back hastily yesterday before our men, leaving their dead unburied, and our picket-line is re-established, but the monitors and gun-boats are still in the Stono firing heavily on our lines, and another transport has just come up with troops. The party from North Edisto landed at White Point and advanced, but were met and driven back. So far the enemy has been repulsed at all points, with loss of about 600 men; but the position and movements of the enemy on James and John's Islands and adjacent river threaten most serious danger to this city. I am in extreme need of re-enforcements; have not yet any of the South Carolina reserves. My men are greatly exhausted and under the incessant fire of the monitors and gun-boats. Two-thirds of them will soon be unfit for duty. Some assistance should be speedily sent to me. Please lay this before the President.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, *July 5, 1864.*

No material change here since yesterday. Enemy hold south end James Island, with increased force. Their fleet of monitors in Stono incessantly shelling our lines. Officers captured say this is a care-



fully matured plan of attack on Charleston, which it is confidently expected will succeed. General Johnston has ordered two regiments to me. I need more.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *July 7, 1864.*

My telegram of the 4th to General Cooper communicated result to that time of attacks and maneuvers on this place, commenced on morning of the 2d instant, expressed opinion that this city was in serious danger, that assistance should be sent to me speedily, and that I had received none of the reserves of this State. Subsequent events confirm me in belief that this city is in great danger and that I greatly need re-enforcements. Enemy occupy south end of James Island and have position on John's Island from which they can enfilade our works on James Island. Fleet of two monitors and several gun-boats in Stono heavily shelling us. I have called on Generals Johnston, Whiting, and Chesnut for aid. Johnston alone has responded, sending me 520 men. Can I look for re-enforcements from any quarter? The emergency is pressing. My troops greatly exhausted.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

His Excellency President J. DAVIS,  
*Richmond, Va.*

CHARLESTON, *July 7, 1864.*

Can I get any re-enforcements? General Johnston sent only 520 men. The enemy is making a heavy demonstrative attack on Charleston. I am husbanding my force in the hope of being re-enforced. If I am told I can get no help I would know better how to act.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General*

General S. COOPER.

[Indorsement.]

JULY 8, 1864.

Your dispatch of yesterday received. It is impossible to fill your requisition unless it can be done by Brigadier-General Chesnut, to whom you will apply.

S. C.

CHARLESTON, *July 8, 1864.*

Your telegram of to-day received. I have repeatedly called on General Chesnut, but he is unable to fill my requisition. The enemy's attack on this place is formidable and persistent. Firing to-day very heavy. Several of our best guns left flank of works on James Island disabled.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *July 10, 1864—7 p. m.*

Yesterday morning Brigadier-General Robertson attacked enemy on John's Island, near the Stono, and drove them from first position, with loss to us of over 100 killed and wounded. Last night and this morning enemy fell back to their transports near Legareville and passed over to James and Morris Islands. Two monitors and several gun-boats still in Stono, but have been driven by our batteries beyond effective range. One monitor believed seriously damaged by shot from one of our Brooke guns. Movements this evening indicate purpose to change point of attack. From prisoners [and] manuscript captured it appears that the force now operating against this place comprises all the available force on South Atlantic coast. Bombardment of Fort Sumter has been very heavy for several days and continues so.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *July 11, 1864.*

The enemy in barges attacked Battery Simkins, near Fort Johnston, last night and were repulsed. The fleet on the Stono has dropped down below Battery Island. The force operating against this place since the 2d instant sailed from Hilton Head on the 1st, and composes three brigades, viz, Hatch's, Birney's, and Saxton's, and the force heretofore on Morris, Folly, and adjacent islands, Major-General Foster commanding in person. This I get from his confidential order, taken from one of his colonels in the field.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *July 12, 1864.*

Special Orders, No. 89, from your office, orders Fifty-fifth Georgia Regiment from Johnston's army to Savannah. I presume the Sixty-fifth was meant, as the Fifty-fifth is not with Johnston. Can you not correct the error and order the Sixty-fifth to me? In consequence of enemy's attack I have 300 of the Fourth Georgia Cavalry here dismounted: their horses sent to Atlanta. Enemy has made no attack here since my last. I think they will try at some other point of my lines.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, August 22, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of military operations in the vicinity of this place from the 1st to the 10th ultimo:

On the 1st ultimo, three brigades—Hatch's, Saxton's, and Bir-

ney's—sailed from Hilton Head and united with the troops on Morris and Folly Islands and a portion of the naval force in an attack on the works defending this city. The land force, estimated at 8,000, was commanded in person by Major-General Foster, and the naval force by Rear-Admiral Dahlgren.

The general plan of the enemy seems to have been to make, with the troops from Morris and Folly Islands and the navy, such a demonstration on our works on the south end of James Island as to induce us so to weaken the east lines on that island as to enable them to seize the important work, Fort Johnson. At the same time a column was to move up John's Island and take positions from which our works on James Island could be enfiladed and taken in reverse, and where batteries could be established nearer the city than any they now have. The movement on John's Island was to be covered and aided by a demonstration in force on the Savannah Railroad in the vicinity of Adams' Run.

Accordingly, at daydawn on the morning of the 2d, several regiments crossed over from Folly and Morris Islands to the south end of James Island, and after a sharp skirmish drove in our pickets and captured 2 field pieces. Two monitors and several gun-boats came up the Stono above Legareville and opened a heavy fire on our works. At the same time Hatch's and Saxton's brigades landed on Seabrook Island and Birney's sailed up the North Edisto and landed at White Point. All of our available force for the defense of Charleston was immediately concentrated on James Island. The First Georgia Regulars and 300 men of the Fourth Georgia Cavalry (dismounted), and three companies of the Third South Carolina Cavalry (also dismounted) were ordered from Savannah and its vicinity to John's Island.

At daydawn on the 3d, about 1,000 of the enemy in barges made an attack on Fort Johnson. They were handsomely and thoroughly repulsed by the garrison of Fort Johnson, under Lieutenant-Colonel Yates, First South Carolina Artillery, with the loss to the enemy of 140 men, including a colonel and 5 other commissioned officers captured and many killed and wounded. At the same time General Birney advanced his command from White Point toward Adams' Run, but had marched less than 6 miles when they encountered at King's Creek a battery, supported by cavalry, which General Robertson had placed there, and after an hour or two of skirmishing Birney fell back to White Point, re-embarked his troops, and rejoined Hatch and Saxton, who in the mean time had crossed from Seabrook to John's Island and moved slowly up toward Charleston, our very small force on John's Island retiring skirmishing; and on the 7th, repulsed quite a formidable effort to drive them off, inflicting upon the enemy comparatively heavy loss. But the enemy nevertheless succeeded in gaining a position from which they could enfilade our works on James Island.

It was manifestly of the utmost importance that they be dislodged and driven from John's Island. The force at my command was so small, and from the nature of the service manning heavy batteries on a long line of important works, that I could not concentrate a sufficient force for the purpose without endangering the most important line of works for the defense of the harbor, for, having command of the water and ample steam transportation, the enemy could in a few hours change their point of attack from John's to James



or Sullivan's Islands or the Edisto. I had reduced the force on Sullivan's Island to the lowest point I thought advisable to re-enforce James Island, and every available man along the line of the Savannah Railroad had been ordered to John's Island.

As soon as the movement of the enemy was known on the 2d, I telegraphed General Johnston asking for re-enforcements, and repeated my request on the 4th, and also telegraphed the War Department and General Whiting asking for re-enforcements, and to Brigadier-General Chesnut asking for reserves. General Johnston sent me two small regiments (the Fifth and Forty-seventh Georgia) and General Whiting sent me two companies of artillery. I could obtain no State reserves.

When the troops sent by Generals Whiting and Johnston arrived Col. George P. Harrison was ordered to carry his own regiment, the Thirty-second Georgia, the Forty-seventh Georgia, and Bonaud's Georgia battalion to John's Island and to report to Brigadier-General Robertson, commanding that district. With the force thus collected, though not more than a third of the enemy's force on the island, it was intended to attack the enemy on the morning of the 8th, but the steamer sent through Wappoo Cut to transport the troops getting aground the attack was delayed.

At daydawn on the 9th, the attack was gallantly made, Colonel Harrison commanding the advance column, composed of the Thirty-second and Forty-seventh Georgia Regiments and Bonaud's Georgia battalion, and the enemy was driven from one line of defensive works, but rallied behind a second line and maintained their position until late in the evening, when they withdrew and embarked on transports in the Stono, and on the 10th sailed out of the river.

In the mean time, from the 2d to the 10th, the enemy's monitors and gun-boats (the naval force had been increased to twenty-two vessels of all classes) kept up a heavy fire on our picket-line and batteries, especially Battery Pringle, which replied with spirit and accuracy, crippling and driving out of action one of the monitors. But the active operations of the enemy were abandoned after their reverse on John's Island on the morning of the 9th.

The details of these operations are given by the reports, which are herewith forwarded, of Brigadier-Generals Taliaferro, commanding on James Island, and Robertson, commanding on John's Island. I send also a copy of General Foster's confidential circular, found on the battle-field, directing the sailing of the expedition, and also a letter\* dated 5th of July and published in the New York Tribune, giving an account of the enemy's operations to that date. From them it will, I think, be seen that the expedition was one of considerable magnitude, from which much was expected. Officers captured concur in representing that the expedition was well and carefully considered and planned, and was confidently expected to result in the capture of Charleston. That it failed is due, under Providence, to the gallantry and good conduct of our officers and men.

Generals Taliaferro and Robertson, whose districts were attacked, were untiring in watchfulness and efforts to defeat the plans of the enemy, and they were admirably seconded by the officers and men. Col. George P. Harrison is deserving of special commendation, first, for driving back the enemy's line on James Island, and, secondly, for his gallantry and good conduct in the engagement on the morning

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\* Not found.

of the 9th. General Ripley's lines were not attacked, but they were constantly exposed to attack, and the reduction of his forces to re-enforce General Taliaferro imposed greatly increased vigilance on him and his officers, which was met by them with alacrity. My staff officers performed their various duties with zeal and intelligence.

I am much indebted to Flag Officer J. R. Tucker for his ready and efficient co-operation. Besides his vigilance in watching the approaches to the harbor, he placed at my disposal a naval battalion, armed as infantry, Lieutenant Dozier, C. S. Navy, commanding, which served well and faithfully in the works on James Island; and he also re-enforced Fort Johnson with a small detachment.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adj. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.*

[Inclosure.]

CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., June 29, 1864.*

The following instructions will govern commanding officers in the conduct of their troops on board transports and in disembarking the same :

I. The men composing each company will be kept together at all times. Upon approaching land or going up a narrow river the company commander will give the command, "Attention!" when the company will immediately form, facing outward, and stand under arms, the men being fully equipped and ready to disembark without breaking ranks.

Company commanders must remain at all times with their companies, except when out of sight of land, when they may retire to the cabins.

II. Proper means of exit on each transport must be prepared to facilitate the disembarkation. Strong stairs must be ready to be placed at each gangway, forward and aft, at a moment's warning.

III. Two non-commissioned officers must be placed at each gangway to assist in disembarking the troops, and to pass to them their muskets and knapsacks. Strong gang-planks must be prepared and placed near each gangway, ready for immediate use.

IV. The signal for starting will be the American flag under the Union jack at the fore, on the steam transport Sylph, the flag-ship of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch. Each brigade headquarters will repeat the signal for sailing immediately after being hoisted on the flag-ship. The transports will sail in the following order : Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, on transport Sylph, followed by transports containing the Hilton Head troops; Brig. Gen. W. Birney, on transport N. P. Banks, followed by transports containing the Florida troops, with the Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops; Brig. Gen. R. Saxton, on transport Flora, followed by transports containing the Beaufort troops. The several brigades must keep together as much as possible, also the vessels comprising each brigade, in order that they may be distinguished. The speed of the vessels to correspond with the slowest sailing transport of each brigade.

V. The thole-pins of the small boats must be secured by lanyards underneath. Trail-lines must be fitted to secure the oars when dropped over. Painters new and strong.

VI. The flag of the major-general commanding will be blue, with white castle in the center.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster :

W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., August 22, 1864.*

GENERAL: In connection with my report of this date of military operations near this place, I desire to bring prominently to the notice of the War Department the great need of additional troops in this military department. The operations of the enemy against this place, during the first ten days of July last, have demonstrated, I think, to all who know the principal facts what I have known and felt with great anxiety since I have been in command here—the inadequacy of the force at my command for the defense of the department, and especially of this city. If the same or a similar plan of attack on this place is again attempted (and I believe it will be) and is carried out with spirit and determination, it may result in most serious disaster for us. Having command of the sea and ample steam transportation, the enemy can very easily transport a large force from Virginia to this coast, and I think it highly probable that they will do so and attempt to indemnify themselves for their failure thus far in Virginia by capturing this place or Savannah, or, without reducing their force in Virginia, they may attempt to accomplish the same object by drawing the troops from the Gulf. The enemy has recently made demonstrations in East Florida, captured and burned Baldwin, and committed other depredations; and though the injury inflicted upon us there is much less than it was apprehended it would be, it has resulted more from the lack of spirit and determination on the part of the enemy than our ability to drive them away. You are aware of the great importance portions of Florida are to us in many points of view, especially for its productions of cattle, hogs, sugar, and molasses. The most productive portions of the State, and the capital itself, are greatly exposed to the ravages of the enemy. Repeated calls have been made upon me by the brigadier-general commanding in that district and by the Governor of the State for re-enforcements, which I have been unable to furnish. I have not heretofore urged upon the War Department the importance of sending additional forces here, because I knew the Government was sorely pressed for men in Virginia and North Georgia, and I appreciated the paramount importance of concentrating all available forces to resist successfully the two grand armies of the enemy. In view now of the exposed condition of this department, the readiness with which the force in my front may be greatly increased, and of the recent success attending the operations of the enemy's naval force in Mobile Bay, I respectfully urge that re-enforcements be sent to this military department at the earliest day practicable.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

General S. COOPER, *Adjt. and. Insp. General.*



[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
August 30, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.  
H. L. CLAY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Bragg, for his information and consideration.

J. A. S.,  
*Secretary.*

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY C. S.,  
September 3, 1864.

Respectfully returned to honorable Secretary of War.

The policy of keeping ourselves at all times ready to meet the greatest effort the enemy might make is a very safe one, and were it practicable should be adopted, but without the means the question need not be discussed. When the enemy withdraws his forces from Virginia to attack Charleston, ours now confronting him may be sent to meet him on his new field, but in the mean time I can see nothing but evil in the course advised.

BRAXTON BRAGG,  
*General.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 4, 1864.

I concur in General Bragg's comment.

J. A. S.,  
*Secretary.*

## A D D E N D A .

*Return of Casualties in the Confederate forces on John's and James Islands, July 1 to 10, 1864.*

[Compiled from nominal list.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Harrison's brigade, July 9 :					
32d Georgia .....		10	2	21	33
47th Georgia .....		7		9	16
Bonaud's battalion a .....		7	4	28	39
Total .....		24	6	58	88
Miscellaneous :					
1st Georgia Regulars, July 7 .....		2	2	5	9
1st Georgia Regulars, July 9 .....		1		4	5
4th Georgia Cavalry, July 9 .....				2	2
2d South Carolina Cavalry, July 7 .....		6		9	15
Inglis Light Artillery, July 9 .....				1	1
Marion Light Artillery .....				3	3
Washington Light Artillery .....				2	2
Grand total .....		33	8	84	125

CHARLESTON, *September 1, 1864.*

I am very anxious to have Basinger's battalion (Eighteenth Georgia) for duty here. Can I get it? It is well instructed in use of heavy guns, and I have not artillerists enough to man the city batteries. I am apprehensive of an early naval attack.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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No. 30.

*Extracts from Journal of Operations in Charleston Harbor, January 1-21.\**

*January 1.*—The first day of the new year commences with a heavy norther, which has caused the frigate Wabash to drag her anchor nearly a mile from its original position. The day was one of unusual quiet, not a gun on either side having been fired. In the afternoon the enemy were observed to be hauling two guns from Oyster Point to Battery Gregg. With this exception no movement could be seen on Morris Island.

*January 2.*—To-day was again one of unusual quiet. Not a gun was fired until about 1 p. m., when Battery Tatom exchanged a few (6) shots with one of the enemy's works on Black Island. The enemy appear to be busily engaged at Wagner and at Gregg. An embrasure bearing in the direction of the city is being opened. At 11 a. m. a gun-boat and a tug (the former with three barges and the latter two barges, both filled with men and in tow) were observed coming from a reconnaissance of Dewees' Inlet. This would appear to indicate some movement in that quarter. The work on Long Island (opposite Secessionville), recently reported, was examined to-day from a point about half a mile distant. Only one face could be seen, the remainder being masked by trees and hillocks on Morris Island. It appears to be a carefully finished work with a large magazine, and the flank seen runs parallel with the creek from Secessionville, but no guns are visible. The rear opening toward Folly River is closed, and it is not yet determined whether this work is for operating against Secessionville or for protecting the creek. Colonel Elliott reports that an 8-inch columbiad was placed on the berm, and can be taken off to-night on a flat.

*January 3.*—There was no firing whatever last night, and until about 3 p. m. to-day our batteries were silent, except Battery Tatom, which about noon exchanged a few shots with Black Island. During the night the enemy placed a heavy Parrott gun, supposed to be a 100-pounder, in the embrasure recently opened at Gregg. At 3.20 p. m. this gun and two at Battery Cumming opened on the city and fired 12 shells, of which only one-half exploded. Batteries Marion, Simkins, Cheves, and the battery near headquarters (Fort Johnson) returned the enemy's fire, and continued for about half an hour after the enemy had closed. Captain Adams, 6 officers, and 100

\* Continued from Vol. XXVIII, and embodying the daily reports received under General Beauregard's orders of July 15, 1863.

men from the Sixth, Nineteenth, Twenty-third, and Twenty-eighth Georgia Regiments, last night relieved Captain Butt and the same number of men and officers on duty in Fort Sumter. A 24-pounder was shipped from this work last night, but owing to the heavy sea on the north wall it was impossible to bring away the 8-inch columbiad. Colonel Simonton reports that Private Thomas Williams, First South Carolina Cavalry, went on Battery Island to-day without orders and with his gun and blanket. Soon after he was seen in company with 2 of the enemy, but whether as a deserter or prisoner is not known. The enemy have at Port Royal to-day 2 steam frigates, 2 sloops of war, 1 steam cutter, 4 wooden gun-boats, and 101 transports. The following is reported to be the number of shots fired by our batteries to-day : Simkins, 11 ; battery near Fort Johnson, 6 ; Fort Johnson, 2 ; Cheves, 10 ; Marion, 11.

*January 4.*—From the rain and fog it has been impossible at any time to make out the number and character of the Federal fleet off the harbor to-day. During the past night batteries on both sides have remained silent, but at 10.20 p. m. the enemy opened on the city from Battery Cumming and fired 14 shells at intervals of from five to ten minutes. Our works on James and Sullivan's Islands responded vigorously and, as usual, closed with the enemy's cessation of fire. Seven of the shells thrown into the city failed to explode. At about 5.15 p. m. a party of the enemy in a barge, taking advantage of the dense fog, made a reconnaissance and approached within about 500 yards of Battery Beauregard, when the sentinel reported it. A gun was immediately fired, but before a second could be discharged the boat disappeared in the fog. It is not thought she was struck. The following is reported as the number of shots fired by our batteries in action to-day : Brooke gun battery, 14 ; Simkins, 14 ; battery near headquarters (Fort Johnson), 3.

*January 5.*—Both the enemy's batteries and ours were silent during the night and continued so the entire day. The Ironsides, four monitors, and the usual number of wooden vessels are among the fleet off the harbor and at Port Royal. No change of importance is noted. Working parties can be seen on Morris Island, who appear to be chiefly engaged in keeping their batteries in order. At Gregg, however, an embrasure bearing on James Island, which has been recently closed, was to-day reopened, as well as a new one in the southwest angle bearing in the direction of the city. Reports from the Stono are unimportant. There was some activity among the vessels there, but no change occurred worthy of note.

*January 6.*—Weather to-day was stormy and the atmosphere hazy, which has prevented accurate observations of the movements of the Federal fleet. The number in the harbor, however, was ascertained to be about the same as usual, and at the mouth of the Stono are twenty-six vessels, including the Pawnee and a very large steamer. Battery Simkins was the only work in action on either side during the entire day, and fired two 10-inch mortar shells against a party near Battery Gregg. The 8-inch columbiad at Sumter, which has been awaiting shipment for several days, was brought away last night, at which time, also, Captain Groves, 6 officers, and 100 men from the Nineteenth, Twenty-third, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth Georgia Regiments relieved Captain Tidwell and the same number of officers and men of the Sixth, Nineteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth Georgia Regiments, on duty at that post. The commanding general received to-day a communication from Flag



Officer Tucker, commanding afloat, stating that in consequence of the desertion of 5 men with a boat from the receiving-ship *Indian Chief* certain changes would be made in the signals of the Confederate harbor guard-boats.

*January 7.*—Nothing worthy of note occurred to-day. The enemy's batteries as well as our own remained silent, and not a shot was fired from daylight to dark. Except a few small parties repairing some of the works on Morris Island, no movements were observed among the enemy. The fleet remains about the same.

*January 8.*—The number and position of the Federal fleet remain unchanged. There was no firing last night, and during the day but a few shots were exchanged. About 11 a. m., Battery Simkins opened upon Battery Gregg. The latter did not reply until about 1.30 p. m., when it responded and the action was maintained on both sides until about 3.30 p. m., at which time both works closed. Our Sullivan's Island batteries were generally silent. The Brooke gun battery and Battery Rutledge, however, fired—the former 1 and the latter 5 shells—at parties of the enemy engaged in repairing the chevaux-de-frise around Battery Gregg. General Hagood, commanding Seventh Military District, James Island, telegraphs that Captain Behrè, post commissary, reports that the meat rations at his depot have entirely failed, and that the commissary, Major Molloy, assistant to chief of subsistence, informs him that he cannot be supplied to-morrow, and does not know when he will be able to do so. Four officers and 20 men belonging to the enemy's blockading squadron were captured yesterday under the following circumstances: The steamer *Virginia Dare*, from Bermuda, in attempting to run the blockade into Wilmington was discovered and chased off. Finding escape impossible, she was beached at about 12 m. yesterday on the Waccamaw beach, at a point some 12 or 15 miles north of Georgetown entrance. The vessel was then fired and the officers, crew, and passengers made their escape. The enemy, in attempting to reach her in barges, encountered a very rough sea and were capsized. Three of the men were drowned. The remainder succeeded in reaching the shore and surrendered to Maj. William P. White, 1 officer and 1 private, without firing a gun, though with arms in their hands. The prisoners were brought to this city.

*January 9.*—The enemy have off the harbor the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 2 mortar boats, 3 gun-boats, 2 tugs, and 10 sailing vessels. Very little of interest occurred to-day. Only a few shots were fired from Battery Gregg against Fort Johnson. No damage was inflicted, and the latter work did not reply. All of our batteries were silent the entire day. The commanding officer of Battery Marion reports the reason he did not fire was the want of 10-inch mortar shells. About 11 a. m., one of the batteries on Cumming's Point opened upon the city with two guns, and at midnight was still firing slowly at intervals of about one-half an hour. But little activity was observed among the troops on Morris Island. The work previously reported on Long Island (opposite Secessionville), nearest to the Stono River, is of considerable length, and extends on each side of the causeway; the other work to the south of Dixon's Arm is quite small, and will contain some two or three guns. The tents on Cole's Island appear to have largely increased; in fact, the island is said to be white with them, while tents on Folly Island seemed to have diminished materially. General Hagood reports that a flag of truce was sent to the enemy to-day with a package from these head-

quarters. Colonel Elliott reports that this night the steamer left the Fort Sumter wharf without a proper head of steam, and drifted with the tide below the fort. His attempt to call the attention of the signal and telegraphic operators was unsuccessful for twenty minutes. Additional report from the Stono: Twelve pickets returned from Horse Island about 11 o'clock. About 200 men left the camp on Cole's Island and took the road leading to the batteries, but only 50 came to the works on Long Island and commenced operations. There are 16 schooners, 1 brig, 1 bark, 4 transports, and 1 tug-boat in the Stono and Folly Rivers. Two large transports are off the bar. One gun carriage and limber have been recovered. The other carriage we have failed to secure in consequence of the parting of the rope. Captain Walpole says he will [send] for another rope and hopes then to succeed. He has had the creek searched carefully and the guns are not to be found.

*January 10.*—As stated in yesterday's journal, the enemy commenced shelling the city at 11 o'clock last night, firing at intervals of about thirty minutes. After 18 shots had been thrown they ceased at 6 a. m. One shell fell short and 9 failed to explode. There is no material change reported in the Federal fleet except the departure to the southward of one monitor. During the morning batteries on both sides remained silent, but at 3.25 p. m., the enemy opened on the city with three guns from Cumming's Point, firing occasionally the three at the same time and again at intervals of from one to three minutes. Twenty-eight [shells] in all were thrown, when the enemy ceased at 4.35. Fifteen shells did not explode. Batteries Rutledge (with 16 shells), Brooke gun battery (5 shells), and Simkins (with 17 shells) replied to the enemy's fire, and closed soon after the enemy ceased. A reconnaissance has just been made of Dewees', Capers', and Rattlesnake Inlets. The only indications of the enemy's operations were the discovery of two buoys, which are thought to have been placed merely to indicate the position of shoals.

*January 11.*—Lieutenant Kemper, with 38 artillerymen, last night relieved Captain King and 40 men from duty in Fort Sumter. During the night there was no firing whatever. Only three monitors are visible among the Federal fleet off the bar. In the morning there were a few exchanges of shots between the batteries on Black Island and our works in the vicinity of Secessionville, and at meridian the hill battery on Morris Island fired one or two shots in the direction of James Island, but soon ceased, as did also the other works. At this time a river steamer was observed towing to the southward a mortar hulk. Until 3.35 p. m. the enemy's as well as our batteries remained silent, when Battery Cumming opened with a light rifled gun upon the city and fired at rather longer intervals than usual until 9.58 p. m., by which time 88 shots had been thrown in the direction, but not into the city, as 85 fell short. This must have been an experimental trial. The result was very satisfactory to us. The shells used are said to have been of the kind known as Wiard shells. Battery Simkins, the work near headquarters (Fort Johnson), and the Brooke gun battery were the only batteries in action to-day, and fired, respectively, 1, 8, and 5 shots. No perceptible effect was produced on the enemy's works, and their fire against us was equally harmless.

*January 12.*—The weather to-day was damp and foggy, so that no accurate observation of the Federal fleet could be taken. One of the monitors, however, appears still to be missing. Last night a

quantity of scrap iron, pieces of shells, &c., was brought to the city from Fort Sumter, and a 42-pounder smooth-bore, which has recently been disinterred from the ruins, lies on the berm ready for shipment. During the day there was but little firing from our batteries, the only one in action being Simkins, whence 22 mortar and 14 8-inch columbiad shells were fired against Battery Gregg, which replied with 13 shells, but, as usual, inflicted no damage. One private, however, was severely wounded with a fragment of shell. This was the only reported casualty on our side during the day. About 1.30 p. m., the enemy opened a vigorous fire upon the city with several guns at or near Battery Gregg, using shells similar to those fired yesterday, but with somewhat more effect. At midnight the bombardment was still progressing. By this time 138 shells had been fired, and of these 87 fell short. The fuses used with these projectiles appear to be of a better quality, as but few failed to explode. The damage done to the city, however, was inconsiderable. At about 7 p. m. (during the bombardment) a house in Lightwood alley, three doors east of Meeting street, was set on fire. It was fortunately discovered by an officer of the First South Carolina Artillery, who succeeded in extinguishing it. In doing so, however, he was shot at by some unknown person in the vicinity, and from this it would appear that the fire must have been the work of an incendiary. Maj. J. R. Robertson, commissary on Sullivan's Island, reports that the troops on that island were without meat on the 4th, 5th, 9th, and 10th instant.

*January 13.*—Rain and mist to-day have concealed to a great extent the enemy's fleet, both in the Stono and off the harbor. It is now determined that the light Parrott guns with which the enemy have for the past few days been shelling the city are situated at the foot of the scarp of the main work at Battery Gregg. As reported in yesterday's journal, the enemy were shelling at midnight. This was continued the remainder of last night at regular intervals, and during this day they have maintained a steady bombardment of the city, firing about once every five minutes. At 12 midnight the bombardment is unabated, and up to this time 244 additional shells have been fired in the direction of the city, 112 of which fell short. Our batteries have remained silent. Not a single shot is reported to have been fired by them the entire day. The shells used by the enemy are very light—believed still to be the Wiard pattern.

*January 14.*—The bombardment has been incessant for the last twenty-four hours, and up to 12 midnight they had thrown 203 shells, 27 of which fell short. Fire at the corner of East Bay and Broad streets was observed at 11 p. m., and was extinguished in about an hour. To-day the enemy was observed moving the small Wiard gun from Battery Cumming and placing instead a larger one. Two companies with battle-flag were seen moving down the beach to their camps. During the late foggy weather the fourth monitor again came inside the bar and the frigate Wabash disappeared. Fleet off the bar reported as 5 in sight—1 sloop of war, 1 gun-boat, light ship, 1 bark, and 1 schooner. In Stono and Folly Rivers are 19 schooners, 4 steam transports, 2 gun-boats, 1 brig, and 1 bark. One gun-boat is in North Edisto River. On Horse Island 4 or 5 of the enemy, apparently pickets, are to be seen on the edge of the river. They have had to-day at the west end of Long Island, in front of Secessionville, a working party, up to which a man on horseback was seen riding (the first mounted man observed on that island). Our batteries have been



silent to-day, with the exception of Simkins, from which 37 mortar shells were fired at Battery Gregg, eliciting no reply. The mortars on the right of Battery Marion have not been fired within the past twenty-four hours for want of shells. Two men of the guard at Battery Pringle this morning deserted to the enemy between 2 and 4 a. m. They escaped, it is thought, in a boat used by Colonel Simon-ton's pickets, which was anchored off the battery. Three other men are missing, but it is supposed they are gone to the city. It is reported by Mr. J. J. Ryan, assistant superintendent of laborers on Sullivan's Island and Christ Church Parish, that no meat rations have been furnished the hands in his district on the 5th, 8th, 9th, and 13th instant. Pursuant to instructions from the commanding general arrangements were this day completed for holding Colquitt's brigade disposable as a movable column. The brigade is reported to be supplied fully with ammunition, canteens, &c., and is in condition for movement at any time.

Brig. Gen. R. E. Colston reports to-day as follows: On Tuesday, 12th instant, a communication was received from Captain Hanleiter, commanding Beaulieu Battery, to the effect that a non-commissioned officer had informed him of the existence of a plot among the garrison at Rose Dew Island (mouth of the Little Ogeechee River), the purpose of which was to abandon the post at Rose Dew, with arms, ammunition, &c.; to win over the troops at Beaulieu if possible; to advance toward Savannah, taking with them the Terrell Artillery, at White Bluff, whose adhesion was considered certain; also some State troops encamped on the Skidaway road, and to come to the camp of the Fifty-seventh Georgia, upon whom they seemed to rely as ready to join them. The whole to make their way to the interior of the country, their avowed purpose being to induce by their example as many of the troops as possible to imitate them, and by refusing to bear arms any longer "to put an end to the war." The plot was to be executed on last night. General Colston immediately sent Capt. W. T. Taliaferro, his assistant adjutant-general, to Beaulieu and Rose Dew to investigate the matter. In the mean time an order was sent from district headquarters for the arrest of Private Coleman, Company F, Fifty-fourth Georgia, and he was sent on to the barracks at Savannah. From the result of investigations made by Major Hartridge, commanding at Rose Dew, and Captain Taliaferro, it became evident that this plot, which at first appeared so improbable, did really exist.

On yesterday General Colston order'd about 300 men from the First Georgia Regiment and the First Florida Battalion, under the command of Colonel Olmstead, First Georgia, to repair to the causeway connecting Rose Dew Island with the main land and cut off the communication between the two. Captain Guerard's battery of artillery was ordered to support him. One hundred and fifty men from the Sixty-third Georgia Regiment, under Major Allen, were ordered to report to Colonel Olmstead. These movements of troops were made ostensibly for the purpose of meeting some demonstrations of the enemy by way of the Ogeechee. No attempt of any kind was made on last night by the garrison at Rose Dew. The arrest of Coleman and the concentration of troops has evidently frustrated the design; but from the report of Sergeant Hinson to Captain Tanner (Jackson Guards, at Rose Dew) the attempt was not given up until late yesterday evening. Another non-commissioned

officer confessed last night to Captain Tanner that nearly the whole company had agreed to go off that night. All the parties concerned were pledged to secrecy by an oath.

The spirit of the Fifty-seventh Georgia Regiment is bad. The troops say they have never been properly exchanged, and the impression prevails (probably with good reason) that they will not fight if brought before the enemy. They are demoralized by the influence of home, to which they are too near, their friends and relatives persuading them that they have not been properly exchanged and ought to be at home. General Colston says their presence there may have a bad effect upon the other troops, and their spirit and tone may be improved by removal to more distant points. It will be necessary, of course, to send other troops in the place of those removed. The companies at Rose Dew are: Company F, Capt. J. W. Anderson; Company I, Captain Elkins, Fifty-fourth Georgia Regiment, and Jackson Guards, Captain Tanner, who claims to belong to the Fourth Florida Battalion, but is considered there as commanding an independent company. There are two other companies of the Fifty-fourth Georgia Regiment near Savannah, commanded by Captains Russell and Brantley. The latter is with the siege train.

*January 15.*—Colonel Elliott, at Fort Sumter, reports that the weather will not permit an observation of the fleet within and outside the bar this morning, and that two 42-pounder guns were shipped last night. Some of our own batteries on the Stono were practicing this afternoon. All our other batteries have been silent. Ninety-four vessels of various classes are reported in Port Royal Harbor. At 10 a. m., two ships and two barks got under way and went to sea, the distance too far and too foggy to see troops aboard. One gun-boat went up Broad River to the upper end of Donough Island and returned. Everything very quiet in that harbor. Captain Walpole reports 31 vessels in Stono harbor. A transport (without troops) went up Folly River and returned this morning. Two river steamers ran up and down Folly River nearly all day, but it could not be discovered what they were at. There is one gun-boat in North Edisto. Several telegraph poles were cut between Branchville and Aiken during the night. Enemy continued to fire on the city from Cumming's Point. Whole number [shells] fired, 189, of which 63 fell short, all of the first shots that came into the city falling in its southeastern corner, east of Meeting and south of Broad streets. At 3 o'clock the direction of fire was changed, and for the first time shells fell in the upper portion of the city in the neighborhood of the Second Presbyterian Church, its tower evidently being the point aimed at. One shell passed immediately over the church and fell in the rear of a lot in John street near Meeting. At 6 a. m., fire was caused by the explosion of a shell from battery on Cumming's Point, in a building on Meeting street near Water street. The fire department succeeded in confining it to the one building.

*January 16.*—Considerable movements were observed in the Yankee fleet in the Stono this morning, gun-boats, transports, and small steamers coming in and going out again during the day. About 40 men were carrying plank from Horse Island to the batteries at Green Creek. Several vessels passed going south. The number of vessels in Stono Bay has increased. In Port Royal Harbor are anchored 2 steam frigates, 2 steam sloops of war, 1 steam cutter, 5 wooden gun-boats, 73 transports, 7 ocean steamers, and

several other smaller steamers, tugs, and schooners, amounting in all to 83. A steam frigate arrived without troops on board. The river steamers and tugs were very busy plying between fleet at Saint Helena and the fleet at Hilton Head. Off Charleston bar the Wabash has given place to a small sloop of war without steam. There are also 6 blockaders. Inside the bar are the Ironsides, 4 monitors, and 17 other vessels, 7 of which are armed. A soldier and a negro died suddenly at Sumter of congestion of the lungs. Firing on the city is continued uninterruptedly, 153 [shells] having been fired, of which 75 fell short, the shells falling along the whole length of East Bay and on the wharves, inflicting but little injury to property and none to life. A number of Yankee dispatches were intercepted, among them the following, sent toward Folly Island :

M—— :

The troops here have rations only to the 20th. Meat all gone. Are they to be supplied or relieved ?

To-day the enemy fired 4 shots over Fort Sumter from one of the small Parrott guns at Gregg.

*January 17.*—Vessels reported inside the bar to-day : Ironsides, 3 monitors, 6 wooden gun-boats, 2 armed sailing vessels, and 12 unarmed. The fourth monitor is probably concealed behind some of the other ships. The sailing sloop of war reported yesterday as having taken the place of the Wabash has moved inside, leaving 4 blockaders, 2 of which are steamers. There are 4 steamers and 10 schooners in Light-House Inlet. Three gun-boats, 4 transports, and 24 schooners are in the Stono and Folly Rivers to-day. A large steamer with troops on board has been lying in the harbor all day. For want of a good glass Captain Walpole says the observations are not as accurate as they might be. Battery Simkins directed 43 mortar shells against Battery Gregg. The enemy replied with 38 columbiad shells, without effect. The bombardment of the city has continued without cessation. During the twenty-four hours 143 shells have been thrown, 17 of which failed to reach the city.

*January 18.*—Captain Johnston, 6 officers, and 100 men from the Nineteenth, Twenty-third, and Twenty-eighth Georgia, relieved Captain Groves, with the same force, at Fort Sumter. The fog is so great that it is hard to obtain observations. In the Stono and Folly Rivers are 3 gun-boats, 4 transports, and 24 schooners. In North Edisto is 1 gun-boat. At 9.30 a. m., a steamer came down Folly River. At 11 a. m., a steamer came in from north, and at 1 p. m., one went out, going south. A large steamer with troops on board has been in Stono Harbor all day. Enemy continued to fire on city all day. One hundred and thirty-two shots were fired, of which 87 fell short. The shells fell all about over the city south of Calhoun street and east of King street. Artillery duel between Gregg and Simkins for three hours.

*January 19.*—Enemy continued to fire at the city all day, but owing to the high wind only 13 of the 123 shells thrown reached the city, falling chiefly on the wharves near the post-office, 2 shots only going up town, 1 falling near the corner of King and Society streets. Twenty-four vessels of various classes are inside the bar and 7 outside. In the Stono matters remain about the same as yesterday. One of the transports without troops on board left, going south. A few men were seen across Green Creek. About 40 men were seen returning from Stevens' Bridge. One gun-boat is in North Edisto



River. The Federal fleet in Port Royal is as follows: Eighty-two sails, 2 steam frigates, 2 steam sloops of war, 1 steam cutter, 5 wooden gun-boats, 4 ships, 4 barks, 2 brigs, 52 schooners, 7 ocean and 5 river steamers, and 3 tugs. Three vessels reported in Winyah Bay, about 7 miles below Battery White. General Trapier promises to reconnoiter on the 21st instant, so as to ascertain if there are troops on board. Battery Simkins fired 15 mortar shells against Cumming's Point during the day. Effect unknown. Wind very high, making it very uncomfortable, at least for vessels outside the harbor.

*January 20.*—Pawnee came up the Stono about 10 a. m. and remained below the obstructions about three or four hours, then returned to her usual anchorage. About 30 Yankees observed throwing up a causeway leading to Horse Island. At 8.30 a. m., enemy ceased their continuous fire upon the city, having in nine days and seven hours thrown 1,500 percussion and Wiard shells. At 12.45 p. m., Yankees opened on city again with one Parrott gun, firing fused shells, and later in the day they commenced again with percussion shells. Whole number thrown for the last twenty-nine hours, 80, of which one-half fell short. The Ironsides, 4 monitors, 1 ship of war, 3 gun-boats, 1 mortar hulk, 3 tugs, 2 barks, 3 brigs, and 6 schooners are inside the bar, and 5 light-ships, 1 sloop of war, 1 gun-boat, 1 bark, and 1 brig are off the bar. Two shots were fired at Sumter, both of which missed. In Port Royal Harbor are 84 sails, 2 steam frigates, 2 steam sloops of war, 1 steam cutter, 5 wooden gun-boats, 4 ships, 4 barks, 2 brigs, 48 schooners, 8 ocean and 5 river steamers.

*January 21.*—The enemy have been discovered throwing up what appears to be a considerable earth-work on Dixon's Island, near observatory. It is now 7 feet high. They are also at work on what seems to be an earth-work on Long Island, next to Cole's Island, at foot of bridge on Green-Creek. A steamer, supposed to be the Planter, is lying in left mouth of the creek known as Schooner Creek, opposite Campbell's house. Ten 30-pounder Parrott shots fired at Secessionville from the battery on extreme end of Little Folly Island. All fell short from one-quarter to one-half a mile. At 3 p. m., they again fired 4 shots from same battery, of which 2 fell short and 2 passed over, 1 striking just in rear of batteries on eastern flank of the post. About 25 or 30 Yankees have been all day working at their causeway leading to Horse Island. Two gun-boats, 4 transports, 20 schooners, and 1 bark in Stono and Folly Rivers. In Port Royal the fleet remains about the same as heretofore, 84 sail in all. Gun-boat shelled the pickets at Hog's Neck and then returned to her anchorage off Bay Point. Two schooners under way, outward bound. The number of vessels in Light-House Inlet to-day was very much diminished. Only 32 shells were fired at the city to-day.

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#### No. 31.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Roswell S. Ripley, C. S. Army, commanding First Military District, of operations May 13-16.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,  
Charleston, May 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: At about 11 o'clock on the morning of the 13th instant, one of the enemy's monitors was observed slowly approaching to

within range of Fort Sumter. Being at the time on Sullivan's Island, the batteries were ordered to open upon her, which they did with the few guns which would bear, when she was about 2,200 yards from Fort Moultrie and 1,800 yards from Sumter. She increased her distance after the first 2 shots to about 2,700 yards from Moultrie.

About 12 another monitor came to her support and, keeping at about the same range, opened fire on Sumter. The two kept up a cannonade, in connection with the batteries of the enemy on Morris Island, upon that fort throughout the day. The fire of the monitors was to a considerable extent interfered with by the practice from Sullivan's Island, although it was at comparatively long range for the object, and but few guns would bear. Their field of fire being materially contracted by the merlons shutting them off from Morris Island. When ascertained that the enemy kept his position under these circumstances, the fire was discontinued. The monitors retired toward dusk. The Morris Island batteries kept up a fire on Fort Sumter throughout the night. No shots were fired by the enemy at Sullivan's Island.

On the 14th, the attack was renewed by the monitors at about the same time, the fire being directed as before at Sumter, the batteries on Morris Island still keeping up the cannonade vigorously.

The position of the enemy's vessels permitted a heavier fire from the batteries on Sullivan's Island, and one soon moved out of action. The other followed to the extreme range of her guns and about 2 o'clock ceased firing. Mean time, having learned from department headquarters that the fire of the enemy from Morris Island was annoying to the working parties at Sumter and causing some damage, I ordered the guns and mortars of Sullivan's Island which would bear to open a heavy fire on the enemy's batteries. This was speedily done, and the result was that, with the effect of those from James Island, the enemy's fire slackened, and within an hour had nearly ceased at Fort Sumter. He opened on Sullivan's Island with mortars and Parrott guns, and also on James Island, but without any effect upon the position under my command.

Seeing that the enemy was availing himself of the position of our merlons to screen his vessels from fire, I directed the engineers to open as many embrasures in the direction of the sea approach as would give us a command of the usual position of the monitors. This was accomplished by Monday, the 16th, to the extent of few embrasures.

No firing occurred on the 15th. On the morning of the 16th, two monitors approached and commenced the action as before. Their positions were taken with apparent confidence until the batteries opened, which they did with full effect. The nearest distance was about 1,800 yards, but the monitors immediately hauled off, keeping up the fire at long range at Sumter and pursued by our shot until they were from 3,500 to 3,800 yards distant. The practice was admirable.

Of 92 shots at different ranges from Sullivan's Island, 35 took effect. One monitor went off with her pilot-house badly knocked to pieces, and both were evidently seriously damaged, having been severely hit by heavy shot in their turrets, on their decks, and between wind and water. The renewal of the attempt against Fort Sumter proved a failure to the enemy and demonstrated the power of our heavy batteries, and the skill of our artillerists, officers and men.

During the period embraced in this report, and within two days thereafter, three of the enemy's monitors off the port left for the southward, one arriving during the same time. One of those which left was that which suffered most severely in the action of the 16th. The distance of their usual anchorage rendered it impossible to distinguish whether either of the others had been engaged, though from the number of times our shot had taken effect, it is quite probable that all of those which were in action had been damaged to such an extent as to send them off for repairs. It is to be regretted that the position of the merlons was such as to have limited our offensive power to such an extent, and that the elevating apparatus for the heaviest gun (a 10-inch rifle) would not allow it to be used with full effect when the enemy were within its field of fire. I shall endeavor to have the defects rectified.

Accompanying this report I have the honor to transmit the reports\* of Maj. William S. Basinger, Eighteenth Georgia Battalion, commanding Sullivan's Island, and Capt. T. A. Huguenin, First South Carolina Infantry, commanding batteries engaged. Both these officers are entitled to credit for preparation of their commands.

Referring to those reports for other details, and concurring with Major Basinger and Captain Huguenin in their mention of other officers named therein, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 32.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Beverly H. Robertson, C. S. Army, commanding Second and Sixth Military Districts, of operations July 7-10.*

ADAMS' RUN, [July 8, 1864. ?]

The enemy are advancing in heavy force across John's Island. I have sent all my available force to Captain Parker's assistance. Cannot troops be thrown across Stono from James Island?

B. H. ROBERTSON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES.

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JOHN'S ISLAND, July 9, 1864.

Attacked the enemy, who was expecting me, at daylight this morning, and am driving him at all points; have passed the line of works he occupied yesterday; our casualties heavy.

ROBERTSON,  
*General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW.

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\* For Basinger's report, see p. 264, and for Huguenin's, see p. 271.



## HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,

*July 9, 1864—10 a. m.*

The enemy has destroyed the bridge over causeway in his front. While he may not withdraw he cannot be dislodged without great loss of life. The casualties this a. m. are about 100. If sufficient force is sent over to make a separate flank movement where artillery can be used we can drive him to his boats. Saxby's is doubtless the point coveted. There is a wharf at Grimball's.

ROBERTSON,  
*General.*

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW.

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JOHN'S ISLAND, *July 9, 1864—12 m.*

Deserters report two brigades in my front, commanded by Hatch and Brown. There are nine regiments. They anticipated a forward movement, but for check this morning. Have sent deserters to you and can give much information. Hatch has been wounded.

ROBERTSON,  
*General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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JOHN'S ISLAND, *July 9, 1864.*

Enemy massed large force on my left; a feint, I think. He may attempt to turn my right wing, which with his large force is practicable. Enemy has five days' rations issued.

ROBERTSON,  
*General.*

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS, *July 9, 1864—6.45 p. m.*

I have this moment returned from visiting my lines, and from the movement of the enemy I am satisfied his object is to make a permanent occupation of his present position. The force is much larger than I at first supposed, and I should not be surprised if an assault was made upon me in the morning. From casualties, sickness, &c., I am much reduced, but I think he will find a warm reception. I came very near assaulting his second line (beyond causeway) this morning, but am glad from developments that I did not. It is generally believed that the enemy will attack us to-night. I must either be re-enforced considerably or I must withdraw my lines. From letters which I will send you there are not less than nine Federal regiments on John's Island. I will write fully to-morrow if I can. It is now getting dark. I send over one of the Stono scouts, who will answer all the questions contained in your dispatch. We need many things here, and especially wagons to haul forage from Rantowles. Will you send me four temporarily? The cavalry and artillery horses are failing for want of food. Can you not

send me the cavalry from Georgetown and the Rebel Troop? I think the enemy is preparing to erect batteries. Mr. Whaley, by whom I send this, can tell you. The troops fought nobly to-day. Our casualties were heavy, as were the enemy's.

I sent you a deserter this evening who can give you some information. He says they came with ten days' rations. I also sent you a letter this morning; will send others to-morrow. I write in haste. Please tell me what arrangements are to be made, as my men and horses are suffering from overexertion. Signaling is a slow process; there must be something wrong. I have sent a man over to direct the fire from Battery Tynes. It is getting dark.

Very respectfully, yours,

B. H. ROBERTSON,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. Gen. SAMUEL JONES, *Commanding.*

P. S.—Let wagons come by Rantowles and bring forage from that point.

B. H. R.

JOHN'S ISLAND, *July 10, 1864—11.10 a. m.*

My advance is at Grimbäll's. Enemy's pickets just beyond. Have ordered a reconnaissance. Gun-boats command the road beyond Grimbäll's. I think the enemy is abandoning the island, as their last position was a very strong one.

ROBERTSON,  
*General.*

General JONES.

JOHN'S ISLAND, *July 10, 1864—9.35 p. m.*

My artillery cannot attack wooden gun-boats, monitor lying above them. Major Jenkins gone over to see you. Will reconnoiter Seabrook Island instantler.

ROBERTSON,  
*General.*

General JONES.

JOHN'S ISLAND, *July 11, 1864—10 a. m.*

All enemy's troops left John's Island. Pawnee, two iron-clads, and one transport between Grimbäll's and Legaré's Point. Shall re-establish my lines and return with artillery to Adams' Run.

ROBERTSON,  
*General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW.

HDQRS. SECOND AND SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICTS,  
*July 14, 1864.*

MAJOR: Information having reached me that a large Federal force had occupied John's Island, I have the honor to report that on the afternoon of Thursday, the 7th instant, I left this station and proceeded direct to Church Flats, where I halted until after midnight. Colonel Kemper, returning from the front, reported that

on the same afternoon the enemy had made several assaults on our lines, all of which were handsomely repulsed by the troops under command of Maj. R. A. Wayne, First Georgia Regulars, in the temporary absence of Major Jenkins. A report of that engagement is herewith inclosed.

Learning that a renewal of the attack was anticipated early next morning, I immediately ordered forward the Fourth Georgia Cavalry (dismounted), under Lieutenant-Colonel Harris, and pushed on with my staff. Having been informed that re-enforcements would be landed during the night at Townsend's (opposite Fort Pemberton), I at once resolved to attack the enemy and prevent his fortifying the position then held, commanding our works on James Island; but an accident to the steamer prevented the arrival of the troops.

About 2 p. m. on the 8th, Col. G. P. Harrison reported with the Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, Forty-seventh Georgia Regiment, and Bonaud's battalion of Georgians. Having reconnoitered the enemy's position, and finding him strongly posted and intrenched, both in front and rear of Burden's Causeway, and knowing that a perfectly practicable road, not exceeding 5 miles, led around his left to the rear of his second line, I determined to detach Colonel Harrison's command to execute this flank movement, while with the remaining force I would attack in front. I submitted my plan to the several commanders summoned for the purpose, and after a thorough discussion of the ground by Captain Walpole and others acquainted with the country it was fully concurred in. Half past 3 o'clock was the hour selected, and signal rockets were distributed to insure unanimity of action. Unfortunately the ambulances, medical stores, and ammunition wagons of Harrison's brigade had been sent around by Church Flats and did not arrive until next morning. I was thus compelled to abandon a movement from which I had every reason to expect the most splendid results.

I then gave the necessary orders for assaulting the enemy's works at daylight, placing Colonel Harrison's brigade in front. The remaining force—consisting of the First Georgia Regulars, Fourth Georgia Cavalry (dismounted detachment), and three companies of Thirty-second Georgia Regiment—I placed under the orders of Maj. John Jenkins, with instructions to support Colonel Harrison. Owing to the nature of the ground but little artillery could be used. The line of attack was quietly and rapidly formed, and the alacrity displayed in their preparations for a forward movement reflected great credit upon those gallant Georgians. They had advanced but a few hundred yards when our line of skirmishers encountered the enemy, who fired and immediately fell back. With shouts of defiance and amid the deadly bullets of the foe our brave men pressed steadily onward to the enemy's breast-works, from which they quickly drove them in confusion to their second line, beyond Burden's Causeway.

Our loss, though heavy, would have been much greater but for a thick fog and the density of the atmosphere, which prevented the smoke from rising. A dense forest skirted the enemy's front lines, which enabled him to carry off under cover many of his dead and wounded, as was clearly evinced by the signs everywhere visible. His loss was considerable. We took but few prisoners. Our occupation of his front line completely thwarted the enemy's plans, as it secured to us the elevated ground between Burden's Causeway and



Gervais' house, upon which a clearing was discovered, doubtless made with the intention of erecting batteries to enfilade our works on James Island.

The second position taken by the enemy was in rear of a causeway flanked by marshes, which were commanded by a line of breast-works. The bridge over causeway was destroyed in the enemy's retreat. Knowing that many lives would be sacrificed in dislodging him, I preferred strengthening my own lines and making a flank attack, which, however, was rendered unnecessary by the enemy's retreat during the night. A quantity of commissary stores, ammunition, and camp and garrison stores fell into our hands.

For the information of the major-general commanding I desire to state that negro prisoners assert that Colonel Silliman, commanding Twenty-sixth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, in the presence of Brig. Gen. R. Saxton (who has always commanded negroes), gave orders to show no quarter; also, that on Thursday, when the right of our line was temporarily pressed back, Private Cooper, Company B, Second South Carolina Cavalry, who was wounded, fell into the enemy's hands. When we recovered the ground it was discovered that he had been bayoneted in six or seven different places. I respectfully recommend that the Yankee General Foster be held to a strict accountability for such violation of civilized warfare. You will please find inclosed the reports of separate commanders. Our entire loss is 37 killed and 91 wounded.

The artillery, consisting of the Washington, Marion, and one section of Inglis Light Battery, all under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper, was well served and did admirable execution. Colonel Harrison, Major Jenkins, and Major Wayne managed their troops with coolness and skill. First Sergeant Gervais, of the Stono Scouts, rendered me invaluable assistance on frequent occasions, and I would especially recommend him to the favorable notice of the commanding general. Privates Miller and Bryan, of same company, volunteered their services and gallantly charged with the Forty-seventh Regiment. Private Augustus J. White, Company I, Second South Carolina Cavalry, displayed the most signal courage, charging on horseback with the infantry advance.

Too much credit cannot be given a portion of the Second South Carolina Cavalry, under Captain Clark, who in the action on Thursday held the right of our line against an almost overwhelming force of the enemy. Out of 21 men 7 were killed and 6 wounded. My thanks are due to Maj. W. W. Harvie, commissary of subsistence; Captain Worthington, assistant adjutant-general; First Lieut. T. Henry Johnston, aide-de-camp; Capt. William Waller, and Lieut. A. G. Taylor, members of my staff, for their prompt transmission of orders on the field. Privates J. R. Wilson and W. C. Meggett, acting couriers, were exposed to heavy musketry fire and behaved well.

In conclusion, I would respectfully recommend the erection of works commanding the approach to Burden's Causeway. The position is an important one to the enemy, who will doubtless again attempt its possession.

I am, major, respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. H. ROBERTSON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. CHARLES S. STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Charleston, S. C.*

## No. 33.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army, commanding  
Sixth Military District, of operations February 8-12.*

HDQRS. SIXTH MIL. DIST., DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
February 13, 1864.

GENERAL: The night of Monday, the 8th instant, the enemy landed in force on Kiawah Island, forded the estuary between that and Seabrook Island, crossed from the latter at the Haulover to John's Island, and drove in Major Jenkins' pickets from that point. Their objects were two, I think—one, general, to make a reconnaissance in force, and the other, special, to destroy the battery lately erected at Grimball's, on the right bank of the Stono River. Their object may have been also to divert your forces from other points.

The intelligence of the movement was received at Adams' Run at 12.30 p. m. on Tuesday, the 9th instant. I immediately dispatched orders to Colonel Tabb, at Church Flats, and to Colonel Page, at John's Island Ferry, to re-enforce Major Jenkins with all their available force, leaving only enough for guards and to support the heavy batteries. Colonel Tabb crossed immediately at the bridge, and Colonel Page was delayed only by the totally inadequate ferry. The infantry already on John's Island and the Marion Battery (one section being already with Major Jenkins) were also ordered down, and I dispatched Charles' battery and all the cavalry I had here, 64 men, under Captain Whilden, from this place; and in the evening, accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel Harrison, of the Fourth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, who ordered three companies of that regiment from Meggett's and Young's Islands, I followed in person to Church Flats, and thence about 11 o'clock on the morning of the 10th overtook our forces fronting the enemy in line of battle on the Bohicket road, just below Dr. W. Jenkins', about a mile above the Haulover. We had two batteries (Charles' had just reached there), about 200 cavalry, and 550 infantry. Colonel Page and Major Jenkins both reported the force of the enemy as at least 2,000. Before I had time to reconnoiter or make any observations, the enemy were reported to be flanking us on the left. They were distinctly seen deploying their infantry in a heavy forest on a line with our left, while shelling with two pieces on our right and four on the left in front. I instantly ordered my forces to fall back to a triangle in the roads called the Cocked Hat. Above that point took position and sent back for all my reserve at Adams' Run, for three more companies of the Fourth, and for the working parties at Pineberry and Willstown. The companies of the Fourth and Forty-sixth Regiments Virginia Volunteers vied with each other in the rapidity and promptitude of their marches, and they reached me, to their honor, hours before I expected them; but they were much rest-broken and fatigued from night marches and without any rations except a short supply of bread. The men of Major Jenkins also were severely worn from fighting and marching two days and nights. I cannot speak too strongly of their gallantry and the cool and sagacious bravery of their heroic commander. With but about 150 men, composed of the Stono Scouts, the Rebel Troop, the Cadets, and Sullivan's company of cavalry, one section of the Marion Artillery, and one company of infantry (Captain Jennett's company) of the Fifty-ninth Regiment Virginia Volunteers he held the whole force of the

enemy in check ; fought and fell back some 2 or 3 miles only, and in turn drove them back nearly the whole distance by such repeated charges all day Tuesday that he made them fear he was supported, and he held his ground manfully until night, when he was re-enforced by Colonel Tabb with a battalion of the Fifty-ninth Virginia Volunteers and a section of the Marion Artillery. Before Colonel Tabb arrived he attacked the enemy at night and stunned him to a pause, capturing 4 prisoners almost within his line of encampment.

In the morning of the 10th, they were re-enforced by Colonel Page with five companies of the Twenty-sixth Virginia Volunteers, who took command, and was under fire in the attack again when I came up and ordered the retreat on Wednesday, the 10th. The enemy on that day made no advance, and on the morning of the 11th, they had advanced only a few hundred yards to the position we had left the day before.

In the mean time you had ordered up General Colquitt with two and a half regiments, and my own infantry force had increased to about 1,000 men, when the enemy began to advance, at first slowly, up the Bohicket and Mullett Hall roads, and then rapidly to the Cocked Hat. I made the best dispositions I could, when General Colquitt and Colonel Harris arrived. In the act of showing them the ground I had chosen the enemy came up, and at the same moment one regiment of General Colquitt arrived. I placed my right on the Bohicket River, across the Bohicket road, and extended my line across the open field on a ditch back to the woods on my left, and through them to the Legareville road. I gave the command of the right to Colonel Page, with portions of the Twenty-sixth, Forty-sixth, Fifty-ninth, and Fourth Virginia Volunteers, and the left to General Colquitt, with his regiment of 900 Georgians. Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper commanded the artillery. I placed one section of Charles' battery on the right between the Bohicket road and river, the Marion Battery in front immediately on the left of the road, and the other section of Charles' battery to protect the rear and left flank.

Major Jenkins had been ordered in the morning to reconnoiter the left and rear of the enemy across the Bohicket, on Wadmalaw, which he and Capt. G. D. Wise, assistant adjutant and inspector general, did, and in Major Jenkins' absence the cavalry were disposed on the right and left. By the time this alignment was made the enemy appeared in the field, and the Marion Battery at 3.20 p. m. opened upon them at about 1,200 yards distance, when they fell back to the woods, at about 1,500 yards distance. The artillery practice was very efficient in everything except the friction primers. Three-fourths of them at first failed. The enemy soon replied with (I thought) three pieces only, but one of their positions was concealed by a hedge-row, and after their retreat I found they had two positions for field pieces—one on the right and the other on the left of the road. A section of Charles' battery also opened from our right, and was very effectively served. In one hour and twenty minutes their fire began to slacken and be more distant, firing as they retired. By 5 p. m. their fire ceased. We were 4 miles from the Haulover. They had about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles the start of us, and I at once determined not to follow them, for the following reasons :



First. Captain Parker, of the Marion Battery, the most efficient, reported that he had exhausted all his shells and had but a few round shot left.

Second. The men were exhausted by rapid, long night marches, want of food, and by constant watching and fighting for two days and nights.

Third. Major Jenkins returned and reported that he found they had about 300 men, whom he could see in reserve, well posted, with three pieces of artillery at the Haulover, and there were two large gun-boats and two tugs just off the mouth of Bohicket, in the Edisto, and a small gun-boat was reported in the Kiawah as high up as she could get, and in range, and I was uncertain as to the number the enemy had on Kiawah Island.

Fourth. There was no practicable way to flank them, and the lower part of the Bohicket road in front is very narrow, between high ditch banks, dense woods on either side at some places, and tangled hedge-rows at other places, the whole way impassable at night but in columns on the roads, which could be easily swept.

Fifth. The possibility of being flanked by boats and barges right and left.

Sixth. The lateness of the hour ; a pursuit would have brought us to the Haulover in the night.

Seventh. All the lower ground for a considerable distance from the Haulover was in range of the gun-boats on both sides.

Eighth. The danger of the enemy getting in my rear at Walpole's or on the Burgess road from Legareville.

Ninth. The hazard of withdrawing from John's Island in case of a disaster, there being but one bridge (that at Church Flats), and John's Island Ferry being useless for more than two or three companies in rapid retreat.

Tenth. The object of relieving General Colquitt as certainly and soon as possible.

Eleventh. Colonel Zachry had not come up, and my forces were weakened by a reserve left at Walpole's and by the large number of pickets and vedettes I had to place on the Legareville and Edendale roads.

Twelfth. The want of sufficient cavalry.

For these reasons I determined to rest on my line for the night and move early the next morning. In this conclusion General Colquitt concurred ; but I put forward all the available cavalry I had (about 40 men) to pursue and watch the enemy closely and to report their movements ; and I ordered a section of Kanapaux's battery (two Napoleons) to be met and sent over Church bridge to Rose Dew, on the Wadmalaw Island, to enfilade their reserve and rear at the Haulover from the opposite side of the Bohicket. Up to about 4 o'clock the reports were that they were strongly picketed about a mile or more above the Haulover. At 4 a. m. on the 12th, their gun-boats commenced to shell heavily, and I inferred at once they were covering a retreat, and commenced to move as early as possible.

My orders at 6 a. m. were to advance upon the enemy, General Colquitt on the left, Colonel Page on the right of the Bohicket road ; Major Jenkins in front, with cavalry to be dismounted when near the enemy, and four companies of infantry to act as skirmishers and flankers ; Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper, with the artillery, to advance on the Bohicket road between the two wings of the main body ; and the orders were to drive the enemy across the Haulover or to crush

them there. There was no time or opportunity to attempt any ambuscade or movement of *finesse*. I accompanied Colonel Harris and Major Jenkins in front, and in an hour we found the enemy had fled, leaving their dead along the way, obstructing the roads, and burning the houses and bridge at the Haulover; and we found that there they had constructed a redoubt and converted a long ditch bank into a good line of breast-works. Thus ended their three days' incursion.

The accompanying rough sketch\* will give you a general idea of the field of operations. The maps of John's Island are extremely inaccurate, and a good one ought to be prepared.

I have received as yet no reports of casualties. Major Jenkins lost some 13 men, to wit, Captain Humphrey's company of cavalry (the Cadets), 9—2 killed, 3 wounded, and 4 prisoners. Captain Humphrey himself wounded in two places, but here in the hospital doing well.

In all .....	10
Stono Scouts .....	1
Jennett's company, Fifty-ninth Virginia Volunteers, killed (1), wounded (2), and captured (1) .....	4
Total loss on Tuesday, 9th. ....	15
Our loss on Wednesday, 10th, none.	
Our loss on Thursday, 11th (Twenty-sixth Virginia Volunteers), wounded .....	2
Grand total .....	17

Of the enemy, 4 bodies were found along the road, and some 4 or 5 were found buried. We also found the buried bodies of our dead, and have sent them to their families. We buried the enemy's dead. From the account of the last prisoner which fell into our hands their whole loss was, killed, 14; wounded, 15; captured, 5; total, 34. We found 3 of their horses killed. Captain Humphrey's horse was killed and Major Jenkins' wounded.

Light as the casualties are, there is a high roll of merit. Major Jenkins cannot be commended too highly for his conduct of the defense until he was re-enforced. He had but few men, and though he lost but 15 out of 150, it was not because he did not lead them into the thickest of danger. He at once repaired the surprise of his pickets and fought so closely and managed so masterly as to make the enemy think him strong. He maintained his ground until we could save the island. He deserves promotion, and I ask it for him. So also does Captain Humphrey. He was devotedly daring, and dashed upon ten times his number; was first in the fight and last out of it. And Major Jenkins speaks in high terms of Captain Jennett and his company. Some few of both Humphrey's and Jennett's companies straggled, but they are marked.

All of the officers and men behaved well under my eye. General Colquitt, with the Georgia troops and the officers and men of the Fifty-ninth, Twenty-sixth, Fourth, and Forty-sixth Virginia Volunteers; the cavalry, commanded by Captain Whilden, and the artillery, exceeded my expectations in their promptitude in bringing up re-enforcements. My total effective force on the evening of the 11th on the ground was 1,850 infantry, two batteries of artillery, and about 100 cavalry. The force of the enemy was 2,000 at least, with a reserve of 300 at the Haulover. They had [been] re-enforced on Tuesday night.

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\* Not found.

Finding that they had entirely left for their gun-boats and Kiawah Island, I ordered all my forces, except a strong picket, back to Fripp's, and there relieved General Colquitt. He went on immediately to Rantowles for Savannah. My own troops, all except Major Jenkins' command and the companies of the Fifty-ninth Virginia Volunteers, I ordered to return to their camps and works. I left Colonel Tabb with Major Jenkins to construct some rifle-pits at the Haulover which Colonel Harris laid out. Colonel Tabb's command was retained for these works at the request of Major Jenkins, and will be relieved as soon as they are completed.

I have ordered your note of congratulation to be announced to the troops of my command, and we regret only that we did not do more to deserve your approbation, which, I assure you, sir, is very grateful to us all. As soon as detailed official reports are sent in they shall be forwarded. The delay is owing to the scattered condition of my command.

With the highest respect and esteem, I am, general, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding, &c.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,

*Commanding, &c.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,

*Charleston, S. C., February 17, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for information of War Department.

On being informed on 9th instant that the enemy had appeared in force on John's Island and attacked Major Jenkins' force, stationed to guard the approach from Seabrook Island, via Haulover Causeway, I suspended the orders issued 8th instant, sending General Colquitt's brigade to Savannah en route for Florida, directing three and a half of his regiments, still awaiting transportation, to repair by shortest route to the assistance of General Wise, then on John's Island. This order was obeyed with great alacrity, and these troops arrived in time to re-enforce General Wise at the critical moment, but at too late an hour and too much fatigued to permit a vigorous pursuit of the enemy. Meanwhile my chief engineer, Colonel Harris, had been sent to report to General Wise for such services as from his experience he might render. General Wise was also ordered by telegraph to ambuscade the enemy if practicable.

On the evening of the 10th instant, having been informed that the enemy was still in force (about seven regiments, or 4,000 men) on John's Island, in position in advance of the Haulover Causeway, and wishing to get rid of him as soon as practicable to permit General Colquitt to resume his journey to Savannah and Florida, and having strong reasons to believe from the statements of prisoners that to organize that expedition the enemy had withdrawn troops from Morris and Folly Islands, I determined to make a diversion in favor of General Wise by ordering all the harbor batteries bearing on Morris Island to open vigorously for one and a half hours at 2 o'clock next morning, as though preceding an attack in force with infantry. General Wise was also telegraphed to that effect, that he might be prepared to take advantage of any unusual movement of the enemy in his front. But the enemy retired, however, so cau-



tiously that it was not until daylight that his withdrawal was discovered. For fear, however, that the enemy might be determined to hold a permanent footing on John's Island, I ordered on 12th instant (see orders) one regiment from James Island and one regiment from Sullivan's Island, together with two batteries (four 8-inch sea-coast howitzers and two 32-pounder Parrotts of the siege train on James Island), to be sent forthwith to the assistance of General Wise, to be crossed over from Fort Pemberton by a small steamer which had been mean time ordered into the Stono for the purpose of communicating freely with John's Island. While these troops were en route, information having reached these headquarters that the enemy had retired from John's and Seabrook Islands, they were recalled.

Special attention is called to the well-deserved compliments paid by General Wise to Major Jenkins and Captain Humphrey, who are fully entitled to promotion by their resolute gallantry. The former has shown himself a most reliable officer, who has already more than once attracted my attention by his judgment, promptness, and efficiency. He has infused into his small force that confidence which has much increased its usefulness and gallantry.

General Wise's promptness in ordering to the front to oppose the enemy all his disposable troops, and his conduct in repairing in person to the post of danger, meets with my cordial approval. His firmness in confronting the foe at every available point until Colquitt's troops arrived to his support deserves high commendation. With such alacrity, determination, and daring the enemy can never gain a great or permanent advantage over us, and must in the end retire discomfited to the barren sand-banks and islands in his possession.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

ADAMS' RUN, *February 9, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Major Jenkins reports that the enemy advanced from Seabrook Island this morning about daybreak, in force about five to his one, and are constantly pressing him back. They are using artillery. Most of our wounded are left on the field. Captain Humphrey wounded in two places. I ordered Fifty-ninth and Twenty-sixth to re-enforce instantly, posting a strong guard at John's Island Ferry. Have sent all of my reserve cavalry and Charles' battery; Parker's already there.

Respectfully,

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 9, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE,  
*Comdg. Sixth Military District, Adams' Run:*

Your dispositions are approved. It is probably a reconnaissance in force of enemy. Colquitt will keep three regiments in reserve at Saint Andrew's Depot until 12 m. to-morrow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 9, 1864.*

Brigadier-General TALIAFERRO,  
*Comdg. Seventh Mil. Dist., Royall's, James Island :*

Suspend movement of Colquitt's brigade for the present. Only let two regiments go to Savannah.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 4.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE,  
*Comdg. Sixth Mil. Dist., Fripp's House, John's Island :*

Enemy's force opposed to you represented by prisoners largely composed of recruits and drafted men. Can they not be ambuscaded successfully by selecting good position for that object, then ostentatiously falling back with main body until proper point, when turn and attack front and flank ?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Comdg. First Military District, Mount Pleasant :*

Commanding general wants a good, strong regiment of infantry from your command sent via James Island and Fort Pemberton to support of General Wise, Fripp's house. Cannot you send Keitt's regiment (four days' rations), to move at night ?

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure No. 6.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Commanding Seventh Military District :*

Send one of Hagood's regiments to Fripp's house, John's Island, via Fort Pemberton, as soon as possible, with three days' provisions, light marching order, and necessary amount of ammunition.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure No. 7.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE,  
*Comdg. Sixth Military District, John's Island :*

Two more regiments will be sent you to Fripp's house. They will be there probably this night.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure No. 8.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Comdg. Seventh Mil. Dist., James Island :*

Hold the siege train in readiness to be sent via Fort Pemberton, with four days' subsistence and proper amount of ammunition, to General Wise, on his requisition, to Fripp's house, John's Island.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

[Inclosure No. 9.]

• HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Comdg. Seventh Mil. Dist., Royall's, James Island :*

Order for a portion of the siege train to be sent to General Wise countermanded. Acknowledge dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 10.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Comdg. Seventh Mil. Dist., Royall's, James Island :*

The order for the movement of the Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers is countermanded. Acknowledge dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 11.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, February 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant :*

The order for the movement of the Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers is countermanded. Acknowledge dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 34.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro, C. S. Army, commanding Seventh Military District, of operations April 8-October 15.*

HDQRS. 7TH MIL. DIST., DEPT. S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
*James Island, S. C., April 9, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : I telegraphed for the information of the commanding general last night that the enemy were making certain demonstrations along my line. I now more fully state the circumstances.



At 8.30 p. m., rockets were observed to be thrown up at Battery Haskell, which was the arranged signal for communicating a demonstration or threatened attack. In a few minutes I received information from Secessionville by telegraph that the enemy had landed at Haskell. I at once ordered all the troops in the district under arms, and directed General Hagood to re-enforce Haskell with such portions of the garrisons of Fort Johnson and Secessionville as could be spared with safety to those places, while I ordered four companies of Colonel Simonton's (Twenty-fifth) regiment from the west lines, with Blake's battery of light artillery, to make toward the supposed attacked point. General Hagood ordered five companies from Johnson and four from Secessionville to re-enforce the Twenty-seventh Regiment in the vicinity of Haskell, which was all that he thought it safe to take from these points.

In giving the order to Colonel Simonton I directed him, for fear that this was a blind to divert our attention from an attack upon Pringle (which is liable to attack by barges), or for some serious demonstration upon the southern lines, to man the batteries and to look particularly to Pringle. Colonel Gaillard, commanding at Haskell, &c., in a few minutes after the dispatch from Secessionville was received, reported that it was a mistake; that the enemy had not landed, but that the picket-boat in front of Haskell had come in and reported two barges with about 50 men each in the creek near the work. I countermanded the order to the troops to march, but directed them to be held in readiness.

At this time musketry firing was heard in the direction of Secessionville, and shortly afterward artillery firing in the direction of Tatom. Colonel Graham telegraphed that his pickets had fired upon barges near the one-gun battery (Secessionville rear), and I subsequently learned that the gun at Tatom had been fired at boats. I was uneasy lest the enemy might attempt a landing at Clark's Point, which, although a retired (re-entering angle) position on the lines, is a good landing, and telegraphed to General Hagood, who had gone to Haskell, to have Ryan and Redoubt No. 1 on the alert, and to re-enforce the small picket at Clark's if possible. This was done as well as could be hazarded by sending a part of the Twenty-seventh Regiment from Legaré's Point toward Ryan. Intelligent and reliable scouts in boats were then sent out by General Hagood to reconnoiter the creeks in front of Haskell, who returned and reported a lot of boats in the creek near the piling; the boats so close together that men could be seen stepping from one to the other. A gun was brought to bear in that direction, and they were fired upon, but the night was so dark that there could be no distinctness or directness of aim. After this the boat scout was again sent out and reported that the enemy's boats had left.

The commanding general will perceive from the above that the reconnaissance of the enemy was by a considerable party, and extended at the same time from Haskell to Secessionville, for the same boats could not have gone from one to the other of these points in the short time intervening between their appearance at the two places.

I hope the commanding general will pardon me for being thus minute in this matter, but I have done so for the purpose of directing his attention to the situation of this district, and to urge that additional troops be sent me for its defense. The number of troops is so small for the defense of the long lines which the conditions and

necessities of the topography have forced upon us in this important approach to Charleston, and these (troops) so distributed and necessarily broken into fractions for the occupation of the line, the points of occupation so remote from each other, so difficult of re-enforcement (when all points are threatened, as was the case last night) from one another, that, without even one regiment or one man at any point off of the very lines themselves as a central reserve, I am profoundly anxious and uneasy lest a sudden attack upon some one of the points of this line should be overwhelming before the necessary assistance could be rendered and a foothold gained by many, which would require a large force to expel them from.

The shore line from Haskell to the Secessionville bridge, a distance of 2 miles, is defended by earth-works immediately on the creek margins, viz, Batteries Haskell, Tatom, Ryan, right and left, and Redoubt No. 1, with a considerable line of intervening rifle-pits or infantry works. The front of this line cannot be picketed except with boats, and these can only, to a limited extent, answer the purposes of vedettes and not pickets, for they could not hold the enemy in check; they could only give notice of his approach. These batteries are manned by artilleryists, but the entire infantry support, the whole available force besides, for resisting an attack made anywhere along this line consists of the Twenty-seventh South Carolina Regiment, stationed at Legaré's house, about equidistant from the several works, and numbering for duty, by the report of yesterday morning, 526 men.

It must be observed that little notice can be given of an attack by barges at night; that the land picket duty on the creek margins and the details for additional guards at night at all these works is very heavy; that a simultaneous attack upon more than one point, or feints upon several, might be made, thus diverting the attention and subdividing the strength of this small command. To re-enforce these points, or to collect troops to expel the enemy, should he have succeeded in gaining any point, drafts would have to be made upon Fort Johnson, Secessionville, or the southern lines.

Fort Johnson is over 3 miles from Haskell. It is itself liable to sudden attack without warning. Its relation to the harbor is such that little should be risked in withdrawing troops from it. Within the Fort Johnson command is embraced Batteries Glover, Haskell, Simkins, Wampler, Cheves, &c., extending along 3 miles of harbor and creek shore. Independent of the artillery the whole infantry force is the Seventh South Carolina Battalion, reporting for duty yesterday 503 men. The five companies ordered to be held in readiness to move toward Haskell would have probably reached 300 men, all that could be spared.

Secessionville is over 2 miles from Haskell. It is liable to the same condition of sudden attack, and the troops there have to picket the line from the bridge to a mile beyond Fort Lamar in the direction of Battery Island. The force of infantry at this point is 502 men. The five companies, which was a hazardous draft, called for last night would have reached 300 men.

The southern and western lines, extending from Secessionville to Pringle, and then up the Stono to Pemberton, are retired sufficiently from the water, except Pringle, to afford notice of an advance of the enemy, and pickets as strong as the command can possibly admit of are thrown to the front until they meet the enemy's pickets at Dixon's and other islands, a distance of 3 miles to the front of the works.

Pringle is liable to barge attacks. The picketing is done by the infantry and such of the artillery as can be spared from the eight batteries, mounting forty heavy guns. For this entire line, in which there are about 4,900 yards of continuously connected earth-works, I have one infantry regiment, reporting yesterday morning 552 men. The distance from the camp of this regiment to Haskell is nearly 5 miles. The four companies ordered to be held in readiness would not have exceeded 150 men. I have taken Haskell as a point to which to refer these distances because it was actually threatened last night, but it must be remembered that Haskell is an intermediate point, and that to re-enforce Johnson, or Lamar, or Pringle, or the new lines, a longer distance would have to be marched and more time required.

I beg to call the attention of the commanding general from the above to the fact that I have only three regiments and one battalion of infantry in this entire command, numbering for duty 2,077 men, which includes teamsters and other daily duty men, and that of this 750 men are about as many as could be well spared from the points occupied to re-enforce any assailed or threatened point without hazard to the lines.

It is proper also to state that the extraordinary high tides and winds which have lately occurred have so injured many of the interior communications as to render them unavailable for some time.

In conclusion, I desire to state that at least one brigade of movable troops is, in my opinion, required for this district as a central reserve force. As it is, the whole force now here may be regarded as constantly on picket, subjecting officers and men to the exposure, the responsibility, and the anxiety which that duty imposes: and in view of the great importance of this island to the defense of Charleston, the inability, from its immediate proximity to the enemy, of re-enforcing it in time to make such re-enforcements available before a collision with the enemy would occur, and in view of the large material of war collected here which must be defended, I earnestly ask that additional troops be ordered to report to me. I beg to assure the commanding general, however, that such vigilance will be exerted and such resistance made under any circumstances as is possible, and that this application for troops is made with the extreme reluctance and only from a sense of imperative duty.

As bearing on this subject, I inclose a report\* of Colonel Simon-ton, commanding west lines.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Capt. JOHN M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., April 10, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded to the War Department, for its information and to show the necessity I am under of recalling a part of the troops now in Florida to insure the safety of James Island, and, consequently, of Charleston.

\* See p. 258.



In no other part of the department can re-enforcements be obtained at present without exposing to imminent danger the portion thus weakened. I shall order at once Major-General Anderson to return here immediately the two regiments of Wise's brigade and the one of Evans', and as soon as practicable thereafter recall also Colquitt's brigade.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*April 26, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to General Bragg.

By order of Adjutant and Inspector General:

H. L. CLAY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY CONFEDERATE STATES,  
*Richmond, April 28, 1864.*

Respectfully returned to Adjutant-General.

The changed state of affairs in this department renders action on this application unnecessary.

BRAXTON BRAGG,  
*General.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *April 16, 1864—9.15 p. m.*

Colonel Simonton reports that the enemy were busy on Dixon's Island to-day. A working party were engaged behind the battery in some way which could not be discovered. Another party were at work building a road apparently along the line of rifle-pits fronting James Island. Still another party were at work in the woods directly opposite our second post, from Battery Island, apparently constructing a battery. Men could be seen in pretty large numbers with wheelbarrows and a wagon, and they were digging dirt. Nothing else could be observed.

W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General, Comdg. Seventh Military District.*

General JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HDQRS. 7TH MIL. DIST., DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
*James Island, S. C., April 16, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: When I telegraphed yesterday evening that the enemy had landed in force on Battery Island, I quoted the exact language of Colonel Simonton's report, which, as he has told me since, was based upon the report of the picket officer to him. He thought that a serious demonstration was intended. I wish to explain in this way why I used an expression which conveyed to the commanding general an entirely exaggerated idea of the strength of the enemy.

I have a great aversion to sensational reports, but regard it as my duty to keep the commanding general advised of every occurrence here as soon as possible, and from abundant caution to act upon reports as true, although they may turn out afterward to be false or exaggerated. I sent as soon as I received the report to ascertain what the force of the enemy was. It turned out that the force did not exceed 200 men, as will appear from the report\* of Lieutenant-Colonel Pressley, herewith forwarded, which will also explain their movements, &c. I cannot conjecture the meaning of their demonstration yesterday evening. The object of the gun-boat, perhaps, was to draw the fire of Pringle and ascertain the range of the guns of this work, and to find out if the bridge across the Stono above could be reached by the fire from the boat without her coming in range of the guns of the battery. Colonel Simonton's report, herewith forwarded, will show that the projectiles fell in the river near the bridge.

The object of the infantry force may have been to ascertain, by drawing our fire, if we had guns nearer than Pringle, which could command Battery Island, upon which they may wish to establish a battery.

I respectfully ask that torpedoes be again placed in the Stono as soon as it can be effected, and that the raft recommended yesterday be thrown across the river so as more effectually to guard against any attempt by barges to burn the bridge or attack Pringle.

I send with this one of the rockets fired from Dixon's Island. It seems to be a 2-inch Hale rocket. About twenty have been, I understand, picked up, some of 3 inches diameter.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Capt. JOHN M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., April 17, 1864.*

Order the torpedoes put as requested. It must have been a reconnaissance in force for future positive or false operations.

The raft has already been ordered.

G. T. B.,  
*General, Commanding.*

—  
ROYALL'S, *May 15, 1864—1 p. m.*

Two hundred and ninety-four projectiles from columbiads, rifles, and mortars fired at enemy yesterday from Fort Johnson command. Effect believed to have been telling, as they fired wild and slackened up after we opened. No firing from our batteries after sunset; no firing this morning. Will direct that firing, if enemy open again, be more deliberate. I will send down a 30-pounder Parrott, which will save expense and annoy as much as heavier gun. The following vessels inside the bar: One ironside, 7 monitors, 16 other vessels

\* See p. 262.

from Secessionville; 4 gun-boats, 2 transports, and 5 schooners off Cole's Island; 1 gun-boat and 2 schooners in Folly River; 1 gun-boat and 6 schooners and 2 transports in Light-House Inlet. No further change in enemy's encampment; no one to be seen on Pine Island.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Captain WARWICK,  
*Aide-de-Camp.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *May 21, 1864.*

The enemy have landed on James Island from Long and Dixon's Islands. Our pickets have fallen back to this side causeway very properly. We are firing on enemy from Secessionville, which place I have ordered to be re-enforced. I have sent aide to front to learn particulars. Since sending the above, hear that the enemy are advancing a force on new lines. Simonton says he cannot hold them longer in check with his pickets. Asks all the re-enforcements he can get. Send some troops here.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Captain FEILDEN.

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ROYALL'S, *June 26, 1864—6.45 p. m.*

Colonel Yates reports that the enemy opened on Fort Johnson this evening with guns and mortars from Gregg. We returned their fire, cutting off the tall flag-staff at Gregg. Colonel Frederick reports that he had Battery Island thoroughly scouted last night and finds that the enemy have obstructed the river with a cable from Horse Island to the obstructions, to which cable he thinks torpedoes may be placed to operate upon any torpedo or other boat going down the river. No sign of work on Battery Island, although the enemy were over there yesterday.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *July 2, 1864—3.40 p. m.*

The enemy's line of battle extends from Rivers' to Grimball's Causeways, with their line of skirmishers in front. Their force is represented as strong and must be not less than 3,000 or 4,000. They are intrenching. The troops are just arriving from Charleston, but the force is not large enough, I fear, yet to attack.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



ROYALL'S, *July 2, 1864.*

The enemy have captured a section of Blake's Light Battery on picket. Send re-enforcements.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

Major STRINGFELLOW :

Telegraph General Ripley to bring over a light battery from his district.

S. J.

BATTERY No. 2,  
*Via Royall's House, July 2, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Three hundred men are all the force you have sent me. The enemy are throwing up works 600 yards this side of the causeways and have four guns in position. Unless more troops are sent me it will be impossible to drive the enemy off, as I am anxious to do. I fear if they are allowed to remain they will throw up works and occupy their present position permanently, in which case our picket-lines will be too much lengthened. I have been firing on them with heavy and light guns all day. I shall feel them and see what can be done. My estimate of the enemy's force is 3,000 at least. After reducing the garrisons at Johnson and Haskell as much as is safe, ours is not half that number with the re-enforcements available for attack. I should like to have additional light artillery. A monitor and three more gun-boats in the Stono now visible from Battery No. 2. You must send more troops.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. CHARLES STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *July 2, 1864—11.25 p. m.*

Three hundred and seventy-five men, consisting of the companies of Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, Bureau Battalion, and Naval Battalion, are all that have reported. Nothing has been heard of the Fire Battalion. Major Lucas reports five steamers in Stono, some of them transports, below the steamers, barges, and launches, crowded with troops. Can you not send Hayne's company to Pringle? Can the Cadets be sent over? No guns are required for Pe Dee Artillery; they are best as infantry. The enemy are still in line of battle, but had stopped working just before dark; just reported that barges are assembling in the Stono, around the monitor which lies near Grimball's Landing.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

BATTERY NO. 2, *July 3, 1864—1 p. m.*

(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Our old picket-line is re-established. The enemy probably occupy the peninsula; will find out. They left a number of their dead unburied. Colonel Harrison re-established the line, the enemy's skirmishers falling back hastily before him. The monitors and gun-boats are shelling our men on the front furiously, and the monitors have been engaging Pringle and shelling these batteries for two hours. Something must be done to drive them off. David's and floating torpedoes, &c.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.

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BATTERY NO. 2, FIRST LINE,  
*July 3, 1864—11 a. m.*

There is no change observable on our front. Monitor and gun-boat out of range of Pringle on flank of our skirmish lines. I have sent Colonel Harrison with 300 men on left to feel the enemy and report, if he can, their strength.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW, *A. A. G.*

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BATTERY NO. 2, *July 3, 1864—11.30 a. m.*  
(Received 1.10 p. m.)

Colonel Harrison has felt the enemy on the left, and they have retired from the front, or on the left that they were intrenching yesterday, leaving spades, &c. The observatory reports that the enemy is heavily re-enforcing from Dixon's Island, and I have cautioned Harrison not to endanger his right flank. Have sent him a section of light artillery. The monitor and gun-boats are shelling our light battery in advance on the right, so heavily that I have directed it to retire. The enemy are strong, I think, on our right, and have a very disagreeable control of the country up to this point with their gun-boats and monitor, which are beyond the range of Pringle. The enemy's line of battle is from  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles to the front of our heavy batteries. It is in range of our heaviest guns, and we have been firing until now, but ammunition is too short to risk much more. Have sent wagons to town for it. They would not think of occupying the end of this island but for the support of their ships, which we cannot control with our guns. Come over this evening. I think you can judge much better of affairs by looking at ground.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.

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BATTERY NO. 2, *July 3, 1864—12 m.*  
(Received 12.55 p. m.)

Colonel Black says Colonel Yates is apprehensive of another attack to-night. I do not think they will trouble him again after

the lesson of to-day, but the men are exhausted. Yates says that Commander Tucker can send some men to Fort Johnson. Please ask it and send them. There are now in Stono, out of range of our batteries, and firing on us, two monitors and seven gun-boats, including the Pawnee. They will, with this support, hold on. Would like a Brooke gun at Pringle, and the torpedo-boats should certainly go down to-night.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

BATTERY NO. 2, July 3, 1864—2.45 p. m.

I require a large force here. The shelling of pickets is terrible. I wish the general to see this particularly. I don't think enemy will try Sullivan's Island after the affair at Johnson's. My picket force has to be largely increased if the monitors and gun-boats [*sic*]. The men are worn out and exhausted.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

BATTERY NO. 2, July 4, 1864—6 a. m.

All quiet this morning. The enemy threw mortar shells at works and pickets at intervals of five minutes during the night, with occasional rifle-shots and a few shots from monitors. There was some picket skirmishing all night. Barges were reconnoitering in rear of Secessionville, and were fired upon by picket-boat. Two monitors, Pawnee, and other gun-boats and transports in Stono; the first abreast of our picket-line. They will, I presume, repeat the severe shelling of yesterday, by which, however, no one was hurt.

The enemy's line of skirmishers extends from old Stono house on peninsula at Grimball's Causeway. I would drive them off, as I think it likely they have retired much of their force, but the monitors and gun-boats so completely command the peninsula that I will wait developments. The torpedo-boat did not come down. Something must be done to expel the vessels, or the number of troops will have to be much increased, as they cannot stand the night and day annoyance of the shelling. They command all parts of our lines. It is very important to have a Brooke gun at Pringle, and a 10-inch columbiad at No. 1. Please send them at once if possible.

I estimate that the enemy's loss has been at least 300 killed and wounded on this front, which is less than the estimate of prisoners. Our loss, 1 captured, 2 killed by premature discharge of one of our own guns, and 5 wounded. Colonel Yates captured, killed, and wounded 300 men, losing 4 wounded, 2 mortally. This makes operations in this district for the last two days foot up: Yankee loss, 600; Confederate loss, 11 men and 2 light guns.

It is erroneous, as stated in the papers, that the section which was lost had no support. It had a small support, and was lost by the



officer gallantly inducing him to fight his batteries too long before he retired it. There are a number of Yankee dead, all negroes but one, on our front, becoming very offensive to our men. Shall I send a flag and ask them to come, for humanity's sake, and bury them?

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *July 5, 1864—12.20 a. m.*

The enemy tried to drive in our pickets this evening with a heavy force, but were repulsed at the causeways. Our lines are necessarily extended to meet the demonstrations on the Stono, and I fear the enemy may drive our pickets back in the morning, as I cannot re-enforce them without weakening the infantry supports of our works too much to meet an attack from the enemy landing from barges on the Stono above Grimball's, which the number of vessels in the Stono renders possible. The enemy are now firing on our lines and pickets with mortar and other shells.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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BATTERY NO. 2, *July 5, 1864—7.35 a. m.*

The enemy this morning have formed again two lines of battle and are perhaps waiting for the fog to clear off fully to allow the gun-boats and monitors to shell our pickets before they advance. I do not understand the meaning of the forming double lines unless they mean to advance. The gun-boats enfilade our picket-line, unfortunately, and the monitors look well into its rear. Can you not come over this morning?

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.

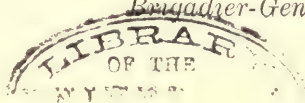
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BATTERY NO. 2, *July 5, 1864—10.20 a. m.*

Cannot well estimate the strength of the enemy. He is reported to have two lines of battle and a line of skirmishers half a mile long, as far as seen, with woods on his left. I hardly think they will attempt to assault our works in the day, but he may push back our picket-line and establish batteries, and may attack the lines at night when we can with difficulty tell where to expect him, as he may demonstrate on several points. I can better explain when you come over. All is now quiet; the gun-boats have not fired since day-light.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.



BATTERY No. 2, *July 5, 1864*—11.45 a. m.

(Received 12.30 p. m.)

The enemy has been skirmishing with our pickets for some time. Major Manigault reports that their line of battle is 1 mile long and their force heavy. This looks like an assault upon our lines. He says they are evidently about to advance their main lines. I have directed Major Manigault not to sacrifice too many men in an effort to hold such a force long in check. The enemy have cavalry and artillery.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

General JONES.

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BATTERY No. 2, *July 6, 1864*—1.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel Brown reports from Secessionville that the enemy's lines of battle remain in the same position, and are apparently of the same length and strength as they were yesterday. A bridge, apparently for foot soldiers only, has been built from battery to this island. Captain Smith, field officer of the day, reports that the enemy have advanced in force across Rivers' Causeway. Now that fog has cleared away, the sentinel at the observatory at this post reports that the enemy's force has not diminished. From the above statements I do not think that the enemy's force on this front has been diminished by sending troops to John's Island, but think the advance on that island was made by other troops.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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BATTERY No. 2, *July 6, 1864*—10.30 p. m.

This evening I sent the scout, but by advices to Major Lucas from Major Jenkins it was thought impossible for the party to cross unobserved. Yates reported a few minutes ago that a large force was embarking in barges at the Swamp Angel Battery, threatening Johnson, Haskell, and Secessionville. I ordered the mounted men [to] Johnson at once, with others, [in] all 200 men; sent the companies First South Carolina Artillery, the Fifth Georgia Regiment, to Haskell, and am on the alert to re-enforce Secessionville. I sent a small party of cavalry to patrol the Stono above Tynes and on to Pemberton. The force from Georgia was much smaller than represented, and while I would like to have sent more to the places mentioned, your order to hold certain regiments in readiness to John's Island prevented it. I had to send off, as it was, one of the regiments ordered. The enemy is signaling all around us, and it is hard to say where to look for an attack. I was obliged to keep, with the entire concurrence of Major Echols, the bureau clerks until morning.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

BATTERY No. 2, *July 7, 1864*—11.05 a. m.

The enemy occupy the same position as yesterday. Their right extends about 200 yards to right of Legaré's overseer's house. No enemy are on this side of either causeway. They made reconnaissances in barges last night in the direction of Grimball's Landing, but they were driven back. Some skirmishing in front last night. All quiet this morning.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. C. STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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BATTERY No. 2, *July 7, 1864.*  
(Received 12.25 a. m., via Royall's House.)

Received your dispatch. Will send the ammunition; shall the troops wait for it? Better not delay them. The troops left here four hours ago. No answer to my telegram about the gin and gun carriage. Send the gin, for the enemy has disabled another gun carriage in Pringle. The fire was very severe upon Pringle, but no harm done to the works; 1 man severely wounded. We hit a monitor twice with a 10-inch gun, but could not reach the vessels. I will try greater elevation with rifle guns, for they are much more effective against us than the monitors. It is very important to mount the Brooke gun. Enemy shelling at intervals still. No 10-pounder Parrott shell on the island.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.

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BATTERY No. 2, *July 7, 1864*—12.15 p. m.

The report from the observatories is as follows: One monitor, 1 mortar hulk, 2 gun-boats, 8 transports, and 2 schooners in the Stono; 2 transports and 7 schooners off Cole's Island; 1 transport at Dixon's Island; 1 schooner in Folly River; 2 schooners in Light-House Inlet. No change can be observed in position or in number of men in the enemy's lines. Fleet off Morris Island is 4 monitors, 5 steamers, and 5 sailing vessels. At 12 m., 12 large steamers passed, going south, and 1 at 4 in the afternoon. I think 2 monitors in Stono, 1 below Battery Island. Sixteen vessels can be seen from Legareville, among them the mortar-boat and 4 gun-boats. I call particular attention of the major-general to the report of 13 steamers having passed south yesterday. It looks as if what was intimated by the Northern papers may be true, that Grant is fortifying and sending troops South. Firing is now heard on John's Island, evidently Major Jenkins shelling the enemy. Enemy are shelling our works.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



BATTERY NO. 2, *July 7, 1864—7.20 p. m.*

I will place both the 10-inch columbiads at Pringle. The 42-pounder rifle I will place in the little work nearest Pringle, and not in No. 1. I deem it advisable to remove one of the 10-inch mortars from Fort Johnson to a hollow near Pringle, where it cannot be seen by the enemy. The enemy are shelling Pringle and our lines furiously, as well as the pickets. The Yankees are crossing small parties over the Grimball Causeway, and have intrenched on the peninsula from Legaré's house to the causeway. They still have two lines of battle, but cannot estimate the strength, as they may string out or mass their lines without our being able to discover it. Artillery firing on John's Island, and the troops are ready to move for John's Island. Will you telegraph at once if they go before dark?

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *July 9, 1864—12.55 p. m.*

I telegraphed Captain Feilden all that I knew of John's Island this morning. The effect of the enemy's fire when I left the front a short time ago amounted to nothing, and we had reached the wooden boats. There has been only occasional firing since I left. I will communicate with you again in a few minutes.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *July 9, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

(Received 3.15 p. m.)

The fire of the Brooke gun at Pringle has driven the mortar-boat out of range.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.

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BATTERY NO. 2, *July 9, 1864—10 p. m.*

(Received 11 p. m.)

The enemy are sending fire-rafts up the river, I think, to try to burn the bridge which crosses the Stono. I think they believe it could be used to bring troops here from John's Island, and that they will cut off our re-enforcements. Can you not send some troops here from the city? It looks as if they meant to try these lines to-night or to-morrow morning.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General JONES.

FORT JOHNSON, *July 10, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

(Received 10.40 p. m.)

The enemy made demonstration upon this post again to-night. They were immediately repulsed by Lieutenant-Colonel Yates and the garrison. Only three boats effected a landing; the others went back before reaching the shore.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW.

BATTERY NO. 2, *July 11, 1864—1.50 a. m.*

I have re-enforced Johnson and Haskell, and am keeping a bright lookout in front. Colonel Brown reports that five regiments went from Battery Island to Horse Island, and may have come back to Dixon's.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

BATTERY NO. 2, *July 11, 1864—8.45 a. m.*

Enemy shelled our pickets on new lines all night with two monitors. The vessel taken for the Atlanta now seen to be a razeed side-wheel steamer, the Pawnee, and one transport in river above Battery Island. The Legaré overseer's house was burned by the enemy last night. Have not heard from Major Manigault, commanding pickets. Have sent to know situation of enemy. I ordered re-enforcements to Johnson last night before I heard of the demonstration, and went down with all the troops I could spare to re-enforce the post, or to retake it if it had been lost. The cavalry is kept saddled near Battery Tatom, always [ready] to mount and re-enforce any assailed point, but it took twenty minutes to throw them into Johnson last night. I shall have to increase the garrison of Johnson permanently, but it will be at sacrifice of other posts. I will see the general to-morrow if things remain quiet, and confer about the construction of works which I think will add to our security generally on the eastern lines.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *July 11, 1864—4 p. m.*

General Robertson is mistaken; the enemy burned no stores. I was myself at Grimbail's Causeway at 9 this morning, and the fire was the burning of the Legaré overseer's house and a few tar barrels during the night, to direct their mortar shelling. I telegraphed you at 7 this morning that I believed the enemy had left James Island, but it is impossible to know that from John's Island.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

## HDQRS. SEVENTH MIL. DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

*James Island, July 23, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the operations of the troops under my command for the eight days commencing on the 2d instant, during which time the enemy made several attacks at various points of this district, and a determined and persistent effort to reduce our Stono batteries, turn our southern lines of works, and to hold the upper Stono.

On the morning of the 2d, at daybreak, it being low tide, the enemy threw a considerable force upon the peninsula at the south extremity of this island from Long and Dixon's Islands. Driving in our cavalry vedettes, they advanced rapidly upon the line of infantry pickets stretching from Rivers' Causeway to the Stono. Here they were met with a stubborn resistance by Major Manigault, commanding, and on the left, the picket being supported by Lieutenant De Lorme's section light artillery, with a detachment of siege-train artillery acting as infantry (Lieutenant Spivey), they were several times driven back with great slaughter. Unfortunately Lieutenant De Lorme, whose gallantry was conspicuous, overconfident of his ability to repulse them, delayed too long before attempting to retire his pieces, and at the fourth charge, which he was unable to resist, lost his guns, taking off, however, his limbers and horses. The caissons had been left at camp. Prisoners subsequently captured admit a loss of 200 in front of these guns, and the number of ambulances and boats employed transporting the wounded and dead, easily seen from our observatories, together with the number of unburied dead subsequently found, fully confirm the statement.

Our picket-line was retired within range of our batteries and established from the Stono to Secessionville. The enemy advanced to within a few hundred yards of our pickets, when they established a skirmish line and began to intrench. I had not force enough to attack them, requiring all the troops that I could collect to hold the main lines and to do the necessary picket duty in front. In order to accomplish this I had to make drafts upon the garrisons of Fort Johnson and Batteries Haskell, Tatom, &c., which, although small, were the largest that could be spared, and then at some hazard. In this way 100 men were withdrawn from Fort Johnson.

It is to be observed that troops had been noticed passing from Morris to Folly Island the previous day, and the exhibition of strength in my front, estimated at 3,000, induced me to believe that most of the troops on Morris Island had been withdrawn.

Simultaneous with the advance of the enemy a large gun-boat steamed up the Stono to protect his left flank. This boat, coming in range of the guns at Battery Pringle, was made to retire. The enemy then advanced two lines of battle, with a heavy skirmish line, well to the front. I directed such guns of our batteries on the southern lines and at Secessionville as could reach to be opened upon their lines, which were retired, except the picket-line, beyond range. It is believed and was acknowledged by prisoners that this fire had a telling effect upon them. No new advance was made, and not being strong enough to attack the enemy, no further change occurred during the day. While these events were transpiring on the southern end of the island the enemy were intent upon an enterprise in another quarter, which would, could it have succeeded, have been attended with most serious consequences.



On the morning of the 3d, at daylight, two columns of barges were observed rapidly approaching the Shell Point beach, upon which the several batteries known as Simkins are situated, and which is immediately connected with the important post and harbor defense of Fort Johnson. One column landed its men near the end of the point, and the other and larger between Battery Simkins and Fort Johnson, which post was, simultaneously with Shell Point, fiercely assaulted. The gallant garrison, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Yates, received them with heroic determination, and the efficient and rapid discharges of heavy and light guns, and the unerring fire of our musketry, soon staggered and drove them back, when, with a rapid charge upon the enemy, headed by Lieutenants Waties and Reynolds, First South Carolina Artillery, 140 prisoners, including 5 commissioned officers, were taken before they could make good their escape.

The participants in this brilliant affair were Company G, First South Carolina Artillery, Lieutenant Waties; Company K, Captain Gaillard; detachment Company E, Lieutenant Cooper, and detachments Companies A and E, Second South Carolina Artillery, Lieutenants Halsey and Raworth. These officers and Corporal Crawford, Company G, are spoken of in high terms of praise by Lieutenant-Colonel Yates for gallantry displayed on the occasion. Five barges fell into our hands, and it is certain that the enemy's loss in killed and wounded was heavy, probably exceeding 300. Many bodies subsequently floated ashore.

On the Stono the indications began to manifest that the movement of the enemy on this front was not designed to draw our attention from Fort Johnson, or for some sudden attack upon our lines, but that a serious and determined attack upon the Stono works was contemplated. Two monitors, the Pawnee sloop of war, several wooden gun-boats, and a number of transports filled with troops, and towing barges, also filled with troops, ascended the Stono. Legareville and other points on John's Island were occupied, troops debarked, and it seemed apparent that the design of the enemy was to occupy John's Island, to erect batteries to enfilade our lines, to reduce Battery Pringle, and secure the Stono for a base of operations against Charleston. This belief was strengthened by the fact that this route would be identical with that of the British under Sir Henry Clinton in March, 1780, who occupied John's Island, crossed the Stono at the present site of Fort Pemberton, and, after securing the river for his line of supplies, moved from James Island to the mainland.

The enemy commenced the day by a severe shelling of our picket-line, and by a fire upon Battery Pringle and other batteries of the southern lines—upon the latter apparently for the purpose of drawing their fire and ascertaining the character of our guns. Believing that the enemy had withdrawn part of his force in front to re-enforce John's Island, I directed Colonel Harrison, Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, with several companies of his regiment, to feel the enemy and endeavor to ascertain his strength, and if practicable to force him back beyond the causeway. This duty was very handsomely performed by this gallant officer and his capital command. The enemy gave back before them and our original picket-lines were re-established. I deemed it unadvisable to press beyond the causeway, as the enemy on the peninsula were observed to be consider-

ably re-enforced from Dixon's Island, and as the enemy's gun-boats and land batteries controlled the peninsula, and it was of little consequence to us to hold it.

On the 4th, enemy continued shelling our pickets heavily and bombarded Pringle and the lines all day, and made several attacks at night upon our picket-lines near Grimball's Causeway, which were repulsed with loss. Captain Lewis, Thirty-second Georgia, commanded our pickets at the point of assault and deserves much credit for his stout and successful resistance. Major Manigault, siege train, commanded the general picket-line. The enemy shelled our lines and pickets with mortars all night.

On July 5th and 6th, the enemy maintained the show of strength on the peninsula, which, as far as could be ascertained, had not been diminished, and made several demonstrations upon our lines, which were checked. He continued to shell our pickets and batteries without cessation. Several transports (some with troops) came up the river and stopped at Battery and John's Islands.

On the 7th, the position of the enemy remained unchanged. Several additional transports arrived in the Stono. The fire upon our pickets continued, and the attack of the enemy with his monitors, the Pawnee, and other gun-boats and mortar-boats upon Battery Pringle was very heavy; but little damage, however, was done the work, and the fire was returned with evident effect. Colonel Harrison, with his regiment, Bonaud's battalion, and the Forty-seventh Georgia Regiment, were ordered to General Robertson, commanding on John's Island.

On the 8th, the position of the enemy's lines remained unchanged, with exception of intrenchments near Battery Island, which indicated that he had weakened his force here to re-enforce John's Island. This morning the enemy, with two monitors and his fleet of wooden gun-boats, opened a terrific fire upon Battery Pringle, which was continued for several hours without intermission, causing no serious damage to the work, but with extraordinary accuracy of fire disabling several guns. This fire was returned with spirit by the garrison. I had made arrangements for supplying heavier guns to this work, and a 7-inch Brooke gun had reached the fort, but had not been mounted, owing to an injury to the gin, and another (10-inch columbiad) was on its way to the work before these guns were disabled.

The number of vessels in the Stono was now twenty-two, and being satisfied by this persistent and severe attack upon Pringle that the plans of the enemy were developed, and that he would bend all his efforts to the reduction of that battery in connection with his movements on John's Island, and that several days would probably elapse before the issue could be determined and the enterprise abandoned; and believing it to be necessary to place at that battery the most experienced artillerists, I directed Colonel Rhett, First South Carolina Artillery, who had been assigned by me, as senior officer, to the command of the Western Sub-District, to relieve the command at Pringle, already much exhausted, with companies of experienced artillerists of his command. Major Blanding, First South Carolina Artillery, with two companies of his regiment, were ordered to that duty. On this day the enemy's boats directed their attention also to Battery Tynes, under command of Captain Richardson, Lucas' battalion, who returned the fire, and at night this battery shelled the enemy's position on John's Island, as it was afterward ascertained, with great accuracy.

On the morning of the 9th, the enemy again opened fire upon Battery Pringle and the lines, but the Brooke gun having been mounted during the night, the wooden gun and mortar-boats were made to drop lower down the river, and the monitors were by this gun and the 10-inch columbiad several times hit, and one supposed to be considerably damaged. Heavy musketry and artillery firing was heard on John's Island at daybreak, and in the course of the evening troops could be seen marching down to the wharf at Legareville and embarking on steamers, but not leaving the wharf. This indicated an abandonment of John's Island and a probable concentration on this island of all his troops, and I made every disposition to meet an attack. This supposition was strengthened by his sending up the river with the rising tide, just after nightfall, three fire-rafts for the purpose of destroying the bridge (unfinished) across the Stono, intended to connect this and John's Island. His efforts in this were unsuccessful, as the rafts were boarded by a detachment from the Naval Battalion, under Lieutenant Smith, and brought ashore before reaching the bridge.

On the morning of the 10th, several large steamer loads of troops were thrown from John's to this island, and the embarkation of troops at Legareville continued. These demonstrations lasted only until evening, when many transports loaded with troops steamed out of the Stono and put to sea. The enemy's fire was kept up until evening upon our pickets and Battery Pringle. About 8 p. m., the enemy made another barge attack upon Simkins and Fort Johnson, which was met by the same gallant garrison of the 3d instant, with the addition of Captain Le Gardeur's section of light artillery and a company of C. S. marines, and promptly repulsed.

On the morning of the 11th, after shelling our troops all night, the enemy's vessels of war steamed out of the Stono and our troops re-occupied the peninsula, and the cavalry vedettes were re-established. I think it unnecessary to detail the positions and movements of troops in the district and along the lines.

On the 2d instant, the First Sub-District (embracing the several batteries of Fort Johnson, under Lieutenant-Colonel Yates; Haskell, Tatom, Ryan, &c., under Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, and Secessionville and Fort Lamar, under Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, and the First South Carolina Cavalry, Major Walker) was commanded by Colonel Black, First South Carolina Cavalry. The Second Sub-District (embracing the Stono batteries, Major Lucas; the several batteries of the new (southern) lines, Captain Legaré; Major Bonaud's battalion Georgia Volunteers, and South Carolina siege train, Major Manigault) was commanded by Colonel Frederick, Second South Carolina Artillery. The light artillery of the district, embracing his own and Blake's battery, was commanded by Captain Wheaton, of the Chatham Artillery.

The re-enforcements which reached me, and which, as circumstances required, were withdrawn or returned, consisted of companies of the Thirty-second Georgia, Colonel Harrison; the command of Colonel Rhett, consisting of companies of First South Carolina Infantry, Capt. R. P. Smith, and companies of First South Carolina Artillery, Major Blanding; the Fifth Georgia Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Iverson; the Forty-seventh Georgia Volunteers, Colonel Edwards; the Naval Battalion, Lieutenant-Commander (Major) Dozier, C. S. Navy; the Bureau Battalion, Major Echols, chief engineer of the department, and Kirk's and Peebles' squadrons



(Third South Carolina Cavalry); the German Artillery, Captain Wagener; Orleans Light Battery, Captain Le Gardeur; battalion North Carolina Volunteers, Captain McCauley. To make these fractions more available, these, with such troops as I deemed it prudent to detach from the eastern lines, were organized into two commands, under Colonels Harrison and Rhett, and occupied certain positions in support of the lines.

On the 7th, Colonel Harrison with his troops was ordered to John's Island, and on the 8th, I assigned Colonel Rhett to the command of the west lines.

It affords me pleasure to testify to the gallantry and determination displayed by officers and men. The lines in advance of our batteries were shelled unremittingly for eight days and nights by monitors throwing 15-inch shells, and grape and canister by gun-boats and mortar hulks and by the enemy's land batteries on Long and Dixon's Islands, yet there was not the slightest demoralization or confusion produced. The troops employed on this duty, and which deserve to be particularly noticed, consisted from time to time of detachments of the Second South Carolina Artillery, including the detachment under Captain Dickson, from Fort Johnson; the First South Carolina Artillery [regulars]; Company B, siege train; the Thirty-second Georgia, First South Carolina Cavalry, First South Carolina Infantry [regulars], and Kirk's and Peebles' squadrons South Carolina Cavalry, and Bonaud's battalion Georgia Volunteers; and the officers commanding them were Colonel Harrison, Thirty-second Georgia; Major Manigault, siege train; Lieutenant-Colonel Bacon, Thirty-second Georgia; Major Bonaud; Major Blanding, First South Carolina Artillery; Capt. R. Press. Smith, First South Carolina Infantry; Captains Dickson, Warley, Rivers, Witherspoon, and Burnet, First South Carolina Infantry; Humbert, Stallings, Kennedy, Second South Carolina Artillery; Porcher Smith, siege train, and Trezevant, First South Carolina Cavalry.

At the Stono batteries the officers and men behaved with gallantry under fire and deserve special mention. The officers are Major Lucas, commanding, and Major Blanding, First South Carolina Artillery; Captains Hayne and Richardson, Lucas' battalion, and Rhett and King, First South Carolina Artillery; Lieutenants Ogier, Martin, Reveley, Lucas, Ford, Lucas' battalion, and Stuart, First South Carolina Artillery. Lieutenant Ogier is particularly mentioned for his gallantry. The batteries at Fort Lamar, under Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, and those on the southern lines, under Captain Legaré, did good service during the continuance of these operations, as did the light batteries under the command of Captain Wheaton.

I desire to record my appreciation of the energy and vigilance displayed by Colonel Black, commanding east lines, not only during these operations, but ever since he has been intrusted with his important command; to acknowledge the excellent discharge of his important duties by Colonel Frederick, commanding west lines, and to testify to the energy and ability which was manifested by Colonel Rhett, commanding reserve troops and subsequently west lines. I have already alluded to the services rendered by that capital officer, Colonel Harrison, and the brilliant affair of Fort Johnson speaks for itself of the ability of its gallant commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Yates. To the members of my staff—Captain Page, assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenants Cunningham, ordnance officer, and

Meade, aide-de-camp—I am particularly indebted for the faithful discharge of their duties, and to Surgeon Lebby, senior surgeon of district, and his corps of assistants.

I estimate the loss of the enemy at not less than 700, including 141 prisoners, while our loss was 25 wounded and 10 killed and died of mortal wounds, a list of which is appended.\* I estimate the strength of the enemy to have been at least 8,000 in my front and on John's Island, and at one time between 4,000 and 5,000 on this island.

In conclusion, I trust it will not be regarded as improper in me to acknowledge and express my thanks to the major-general commanding for the rapid and, under the circumstances, the extraordinary concentration of troops and unhopèd-for re-enforcements placed from time to time at my disposal, and for the promptitude with which he directed my efforts to be seconded by the several staff departments.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *October 16, 1864.*

The firing of yesterday and the report of the number and position of the fleet is as follows: Enemy fired 12 rifled shell at Fort Johnson, slightly wounding 1 man. Swamp Angel fired 3 shots at Haskell. Secessionville fired a few shots at the enemy's working party on Long Island, causing them to cease. Four blockaders, 5 monitors, 5 steamers, and 6 sailing vessels off Morris Island; 1 blockader and 4 sailing vessels less than yesterday. There are off Cole's Island 4 gun-boats, 2 transports, and 10 schooners; in Light-House Inlet, 1 transport and 4 schooners; 3 transports less in Light-House Inlet than yesterday.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,

*Brigadier-General.*

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 35.

*Extracts from Journal of Operations in the Seventh Military District, March 31–April 29.*

HDQRS. SEVENTH MIL. DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

*James Island, March 31, 1864.*

Copy of the reports of observation from the posts of Fort Johnson, Battery Haskell, and Secessionville from March 31 to April 8 [29], inclusive:

*March 31.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports the firing at that post on the 30th instant as follows: Battery Cheves fired four 8-inch shells at a working party of the

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\* Embodied in table, p. 128.

enemy at the Swamp Angel; effect unknown. Battery Simkins fired 18 mortar shells and 4 columbiad shells; effect unknown. The enemy fired 16 mortar and 4 rifled shells, doing no damage. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that the troops and batteries of his command were inspected to-day by Colonel Jones, of General Bragg's staff. Nothing observed in the direction of the enemy. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post to-day.

*April 1.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports the firing at that post as follows: Battery Cheves fired 3 8-inch shells at a working party on the Swamp Angel; effect unknown. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post to-day. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post on the 1st instant.

*April 2.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports the firing at that post on the 2d instant as follows: Battery Simkins fired 1 shot at a transport; effect unknown. The enemy fired one 10-inch shell at Simkins, doing no damage. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that a party of the enemy at the Swamp Angel Battery were fired on three times from Haskell late in the afternoon, 1 shell striking the parapet without exploding. Another party approaching the work turned and retreated toward Morris Island at the first fire. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post on the 2d instant.

*April 3.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from the batteries of that post to-day. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, and Colonel Graham, report all quiet at their several posts on the 3d instant.

*April 4.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from the batteries at that post to-day. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post to-day. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports that all is quiet at that post to-day.

*April 5.*—Reports of the above posts for the 5th are the same as on the 4th instant.

*April 6.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from the batteries at that post on this date. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports a larger working party than usual appeared at the Swamp Angel Battery this afternoon (the 6th instant), and 4 shells were fired at them from Haskell, which caused them to withdraw. They appeared to have opened an embrasure on the front of the work toward Sumter. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post on the 6th.

*April 7.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Battery Simkins to-day. Battery Cheves fired thirteen 8-inch shells at a working party of the enemy on the Swamp Angel; effect unknown. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post to-day.

*April 8.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Secessionville, reports the firing at that post as follows: Battery Cheves fired 1 shot; effect unknown. No firing from Simkins. The enemy



did not fire. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that about 8.30 p. m. an alarm occurred, the picket-boat off Haskell having come in and reported the enemy's barges approaching. The proper signals were promptly made, and the troops of the post immediately ordered out and put in position, and kept on the defenses until 3 a. m. One gun (24-pounder howitzer) and one rifle by a sentinel were fired off at Tatom at a raft supposed to be a boat. Nothing further unusual occurred, except several reports of small-arms in the direction of the Secessionville bridge. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports that at about 9 o'clock the officer of the day reported three rockets sent up in the direction of Battery Haskell, which being the signal that that place was threatened, the command at this post was turned out and under arms; the several guns manned. Having been notified that all was quiet at Haskell, I dismissed the command, with directions to sleep with their accouterments on. At about 10 p. m., musketry firing was reported at the battery between the two bridges at this post, and that two boats had approached that point. Upon investigating the matter I have concluded that what was seen and fired at was nothing more than a collection of marsh grass floating about with the tide, which at the time was at its flow. Besides this, I have no operations to report at this post for the 8th instant.\*

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*April 10.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports no firing at that post on the 9th instant. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred to-day. Colonel Graham, commanding at Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post yesterday.

*April 11.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding at Fort Johnson, reports the firing of yesterday as follows: Battery Cheves fired 3 shell at a working party at the Swamp Angel; effect unknown. No firing from Simkins. The enemy did not fire, therefore no casualties to report. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post on yesterday. Colonel Graham, commanding at Secessionville, reports that all was quiet yesterday at that post.

*April 12.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports the firing from the batteries at that post yesterday as follows: Battery Cheves fired 7 shell at a working party of the enemy at the Swamp Angel; effect unknown. Battery Simkins did not fire. The enemy fired one 10-inch columbiad shell at Simkins, doing no damage. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that yesterday the enemy mounted a gun on the Swamp Angel Battery. Haskell opened fire on them, but without effect in causing them to desist from their work. The range of fire from the gun will embrace both Sumter and Haskell. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post on yesterday.

*April 13.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding at Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday. The enemy did not fire. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that the enemy continue their work on the Swamp Angel Battery, apparently strengthening it. Nothing further observed. No casualties. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports that all was quiet at that post yesterday.

\*The record entered for April 9 is identical with that of the 8th, ending with the word "flow" in second line above.

*April 14.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday. The enemy did not fire, therefore no casualties. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post yesterday. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post yesterday.

*April 15.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports the firing from that post yesterday as follows: Battery Cheves fired 2 shells at a working party of the enemy at the Swamp Angel; effect unknown. No firing from Battery Simkins. The enemy did not fire. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that all was quiet at that post yesterday. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post yesterday.

*April 16.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding, &c., reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday. The enemy did not fire. Major Campbell, commanding, &c., reports that a few rounds were fired from the mortars at Haskell yesterday, in order to get the range of the Swamp Angel Battery, instructions having been given through Colonel Gaillard to use them against that work whenever it could be done to advantage. Colonel Graham, commanding, &c., reports that all was quiet at that post yesterday.

*April 17.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding, &c., reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday. The enemy fired 3 rifle shells at Cheves, doing no damage. Major Campbell, commanding, &c., reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post on yesterday. Colonel Graham, commanding, &c., reports that all was quiet at that post on yesterday.

*April 18.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding, &c., reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday; the enemy did not fire, therefore there are no casualties to report. Major Campbell, commanding, &c., reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post on yesterday. Colonel Graham, commanding, &c., reports all quiet at that post on yesterday.

*April 19.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, commanding Fort Johnson, reports that all was quiet at that post yesterday. No firing from Batteries Simkins or Cheves; the enemy did not fire. Major Campbell, commanding artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post on yesterday. Colonel Graham, commanding Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post on yesterday.

*April 20.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports that all was quiet at that post yesterday. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that the enemy's tents on Black Island had greatly decreased in number; thinks also that there are not so many on Morris Island. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday; the enemy did not fire, therefore no casualties.

*April 21.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports that all was quiet at that post yesterday. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post yesterday. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday; the enemy did not fire. The number of vessels off the bar as follows: Off Maffitt's Channel, 1 steamer and 1 frigate; 2 monitors to the east of Battery Gregg; the Ironsides and 3 monitors to the south of Battery Wag-

ner; at anchor and a little farther south 14 sailing vessels, apparently transportation and provision ships, 1 river steamer, 1 gun-boat, and 1 tug-boat; in all, Ironsides, 5 monitors, and 22 vessels. In Light-House Inlet there are 5 schooners and 2 river steamers. No alteration of tents either on Morris or Black Island.

*April 22.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports that all was quiet at that post yesterday. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post yesterday. One of the mortars moved from Haskell by order of General Taliaferro. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves yesterday; the enemy did not fire. Also during yesterday there was no change in the fleet, nor any in the number of tents on Morris and Black Islands. This morning the haziness of the atmosphere is such that neither the fleet nor tents can be seen; there are about fifty more tents in view at 6.30 a. m.

*April 23.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports all quiet at that post yesterday. At about 11 o'clock last night the music of a brass band on Big Folly could plainly be heard, and continued for about one hour, as if welcoming the arrival or mourning the departure of some favorite command or commander. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that yesterday the enemy's tents on Black Island appeared to be again increased. The 32-pounder rifled mortar was brought to Haskell to-day, but not mounted, the platform not being prepared. A few rounds were fired to-day from 8-inch columbiad at Haskell at a group of men at the Swamp Angel. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Battery Simkins yesterday. Battery Cheves fired 4 shots; effect unknown. The enemy did not fire. Also reports the number of the enemy's vessels off the bar as follows: The Ironsides, 5 monitors, 2 large packet steamers, and 14 other vessels; in Light-House Inlet there are 8 vessels, river steamers and small sailing vessels. No change in the number of tents either on Morris or Black Islands.

*April 24.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports that no change has been observed at that post during the past twenty-four hours. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred on yesterday. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves on yesterday; the enemy did not fire. Also reports the enemy's fleet off the bar as follows: Off Morris Island, the Ironsides, 6 monitors, 4 gun-boats, 15 schooners, 1 river steamer, 3 tug-boats, and 1 light-ship; in Light-House Inlet, 6 schooners, 3 river steamers. No change in number of tents either on Morris or Black Islands. This shows an increase of 1 monitor.

*April 25.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports that nothing unusual has occurred during the past twenty-four hours. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred at that post on yesterday. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simkins and Cheves on yesterday; the enemy did not fire. Also reports that the weather was so hazy yesterday that no observations could be taken of the fleet and of operations on Morris Island and Black Island. This morning the fleet can be discovered, but indistinctly; there is apparently no change since last report.



*April 26.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports nothing unusual has occurred at that post during the past twenty-four hours. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that on the 25th instant the house on Morris Island known as Graham's was torn down by the enemy; about 8.30 in the evening two rockets were sent up from Morris Island. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simpkins and Cheves on yesterday; the enemy did not fire. Also reports the enemy's fleet off the bar as follows: Off Morris Island, 6 monitors, Ironsides, 26 vessels, consisting of brigs, steamers, tug-boats, and schooners. No change apparently in the number of tents on Morris or Black Islands.

*April 27.*—Colonel Graham, Secessionville, reports that nothing of importance has occurred at that post during past twenty-four hours. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred on yesterday. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simpkins and Cheves yesterday; the enemy did not fire. Also reports the enemy's fleet off the bar as follows: The Ironsides, 6 monitors, 2 gun-boats, 14 schooners, 1 river steamer, 1 tug-boat, 2 blockaders; all the above lying at their usual anchorage. No change noticed in the enemy's encampment on Morris Island.

*April 28.*—Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, Secessionville, reports that no change of importance has been observed at that post during past twenty-four hours. Major Campbell, artillery, Section 2, reports that nothing unusual occurred on yesterday. Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simpkins and Cheves on yesterday; the enemy did not fire. Also reports the enemy's fleet off the bar as follows: The Ironsides, 6 monitors, 2 tug-boats, and 22 other vessels, some 8 or 10 being steamers; in Light-House Inlet, 3 river steamers and 7 vessels, principally schooners. No change in number of tents either on Morris or Black Islands.

*April 29.*—Lieut. Col. J. W. Brown, Secessionville, reports that all was quiet during the past twenty-four hours. Lieutenant-Colonel Yates, Fort Johnson, reports that there was no firing from Batteries Simpkins and Cheves yesterday. The enemy did not fire, therefore no casualties.

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No. 36.

*Reports of Lieut. Col. Stephen Elliott, jr., and Capts. Francis T. Miles, James M. Carson, Thomas J. China, S. H. Wilds, John C. Mitchel, Charles W. Parker, C. A. Willis, Thomas A. Huguenin, and Stephen D. Mobley, commanding Fort Sumter, of operations January 1-September 26.*

SUMTER, January 1, 1864.

I have the honor to report that the enemy fired two shots over us at sunset yesterday. Having done that he respectfully dropped his flag at the report of our evening gun. There are in sight this morning the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 2 wooden gun-boats, 3 tugs, 2 mortar-boats, and 15 sailing vessels inside; 3 blockaders and 1 schooner

outside, and 15 vessels in Light-House Inlet. The Wabash has shifted her position a quarter of a mile more to northward and eastward of the light-ship. I presume she dragged during the blow last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUMTER, *January 2, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the vessels in sight this morning are the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 2 wooden gun-boats, 2 mortar-boats, and 14 sailing vessels inside; 3 blockaders and 2 schooners outside, and 13 vessels in Light-House Inlet. This is the smallest number that I have yet reported. Some parties are at work near Wagner this morning. The 8-inch columbiad was placed on the berm yesterday afternoon; it can be removed by a flat to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUMTER, *January 3, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain Adams, with 6 officers and 100 men from Sixth, Nineteenth, Twenty-third, and Twenty-eighth Georgia, relieved Captain Butt, 6 officers, and 100 men from Georgia Volunteers. The Ironsides, 4 monitors, 2 mortar-boats, 4 wooden gun-boats (1 of which I have not seen before), 3 tugs, and 14 sailing vessels are inside the bar to-day; 11 crafts in Light-House Inlet, 3 blockaders in front, 1 three-masted, 1 tug, and 2 schooners to the northeast, and 1 large transport and 1 schooner in the offing, going southward. I think that from riggers on the blockaders and on the 2 schooners referred to there is surveying going on to the northward and eastward. I will hereafter report not only the number but the movements of vessels in sight. Large flag-staff raised at Wagner yesterday. Twenty-four-pounder shipped last night. Too much sea on the north wall for shipment of 8-inch. Will do it first calm night if flat is sent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUMTER, *January 4, 1864—12.45 p. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the boom in front of the sea and eastern portions of the gorge faces was successfully laid last night, and that it remains in position. I think that an addition

to its length of both extremities would be an improvement. While the work of laying was going on Fort Johnson fired 3 shots in this direction; fortunately no harm was done. I understand that the sentinel thought he saw and heard musketry at this post. As we had two steamers and a fleet of small boats here, the risk to property was very great. The batteries being near the telegraph office, I was able to check it before our range had been attained. I recommend that Fort Johnson be no longer included among our supporting batteries. The distance is too great and the required adjustment of aim too nice for good results to be attained, and the probability is that the effect upon the garrison will be more injurious than upon the enemy. The difficulty is not owing to any defect in the skill of our artillerists, but belongs to the nature of the case.

At 4.20 a. m. this morning the alarm signal was made by the navy guard-boat, which afterward reported two small boats and a monitor approaching. The parapet had been manned, and was kept so until daylight, as the night was peculiarly favorable to an assault. No observations this morning. Weather thick.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *January 5, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 2 wooden gun-boats, 2 mortar-boats, and 15 sailing vessels inside; 5 steamers, 7 schooners, and 1 steam derrick in Light-House Inlet. The latter has always been there, but has not heretofore been specially reported. Ships in the offing not visible; fog last night very thick. Multiplied the sentinels by 10; work going on on Morris Island, but apparently not in the way of any change. One of the crew of the guard-boat shot himself through the hand while at the wharf; injured part successfully removed by Major Rhett, surgeon in charge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

FORT SUMTER, *January 10, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Capt. J. B. Allston, 6 officers, and 100 men, from Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers, relieved Captain Hammond, 6 officers, and 100 men, from Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers. The steamer left the wharf without a proper head of steam and began drifting with the tide below the fort. Seeing that she ran great risk of being fired into by Sullivan's Island, as well as by the enemy, I directed both the telegraphic and signal operators to call Sullivan's Island. They tried for twenty minutes, from 12.30 to 12.50, without success. At the



end of this time the steamer had recovered her position abreast of the fort. The night was perfectly calm and clear, and there is no possible excuse for the neglect of the signal.

From what I have seen of the working of this corps I would respectfully suggest that efficiency would be more certainly secured if the punishment was inflicted upon the operator, who by proper attention can always insure the vigilance of the reporting sentinels. I understand that there is a want of operators for the military telegraph line, and that many stations are supplied as Fort Sumter is, with only one officer. I would recommend that to each office one or more enlisted men may be assigned, who shall be instructed in the calls for that office, which a person of ordinary aptness for such matters could learn in a few days. In this way the attention of the office could be aroused at any time, which will not be the case if left to the wakefulness of a single person. I have had frequent opportunities of observing the working of the system since my residence at this post, and am confident that the proposed plan will answer.

Three blockading steamers this morning. In other respects report same as yesterday. Ironsides kept revolving light going all night; 42-pounder was placed upon the berm yesterday evening ready for shipment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

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FORT SUMTER, *January 11, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Lieutenant Kemper, with 38 men, relieved Captain King, 40 men, last night. There are visible this morning the Ironsides, 3 monitors (the fourth may be concealed behind the other shipping), 2 mortar-boats, 3 gun-boats, 10 sailing vessels inside, 2 steam blockaders and 4 sailing vessels outside, and 8 sailing vessels and 6 steamers in Light-House Inlet. Yesterday afternoon the 30-pounders at Gregg fired 9 shots, 7 of which struck.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *January 12, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the thick weather will not permit an observation of the fleet this morning. I was unable to discover the fourth monitor yesterday. A quantity of old iron was shipped by the steamer last night; a 42-pounder lies ready for shipment when the flat shall be sent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 13, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred since my last report, with the exception of the unmasking of one or more light Parrott guns than have heretofore been employed. They are situated at the foot of the scarp of the main work of Gregg. No observation can be made this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *January 14, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that affairs continue quiet. The density of the fog affords good cause for an assault, but it would not find us unprepared.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *January 15, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the weather will not permit an observation of the fleet this morning. Two 42-pounder guns were shipped last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *January 16, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that there are this morning inside the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 5 wooden gun-boats, 1 armed schooner and 1 armed bark, and 10 sailing vessels. The Wabash has given place to a small sloop of war without steam. In addition there are 6 blockaders (2 without steam), 7 steamers, and 10 schooners in Light-House Inlet.

Private G. W. Dunican, Company E, Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers, died suddenly yesterday of congestion of lungs and brain; also negro from the same cause.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *January 18, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain Johnston, 6 officers, and 100 men, from Nineteenth, Twenty-third, and Twenty-eighth Georgia, relieved Captain Groves with the same force. Foggy this morning; no observations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

—  
FORT SUMTER, *January 21, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I assumed command of this post last night. No change in the fleet. Two shots (Parrotts) fired at the fort, both of which missed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. T. MILES,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

—  
SUMTER, *January 22, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain Burgess, 5 officers, and 101 men, from Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers, relieved Captain Allston, 6 officers, and 100 men, from Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers. There is 1 officer wanting to make up the regular detail. A steam tug was seen unusually near Fort Moultrie last night, retiring only at daylight. One shot fired yesterday, which missed. The water-boat was not down. We stand in much need of the lanterns for which requisition has already been made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. T. MILES,

*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,

*Charleston, S. C., January 22, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to the chief quartermaster, who will please furnish the lanterns immediately if they can be found in the city.

An explanation is desired of the reasons which have prevented the execution of a previous order to this effect from these headquarters.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

OFFICE CHIEF Q. M., DEPT. S. CAROLINA, &C.,

*Charleston, January 22, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Major Pringle, quartermaster, for his remarks.

HUTSON LEE,

*Chief Quartermaster.*



[Third indorsement.]

QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,  
*Charleston, January 22, 1864.*

Respectfully returned, through chief quartermaster. No requisitions made from Fort Sumter are unfilled nor have I any knowledge of the requisition alluded to within.

MOTTE A. PRINGLE,  
*Major and Quartermaster.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, &C.,  
*January 26, 1864.*

Respectfully returned.

On the 6th ultimo, Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott made a request for oil lanterns, and on the 7th the following indorsement was made on his request by these headquarters: "The quartermaster's department will furnish with the least delay practicable." An explanation is desired as to why the lanterns were not supplied. Return this paper.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,  
*Charleston, January 27, 1864.*

Respectfully returned, through chief quartermaster, with the remark that on the 8th of December four oil lanterns were ordered from Messrs Adams and Damon, and taken down to Fort Sumter by Lieutenant Swinton, the receipt of which Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott acknowledges, and these lanterns I am informed are now at the fort. I have no record of any other requisitions for lanterns being made. I have, however, shipped this evening four additional lanterns, which are transferred to Capt. T. M. Barker, assistant quartermaster of Fifth Military District, upon whom all requisitions from Fort Sumter, I respectfully submit, should be made.

MOTTE A. PRINGLE,  
*Major and Quartermaster.*

—  
 FORT SUMTER, *January 23, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report that two steam tugs of the enemy were stationed off the fort during the whole night. Number of fleet as usual. Water-boat failed to come again last night. One shot fired, which missed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. T. MILES,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 26, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain Colhoun, 1 officer, and 40 enlisted men, from Company A, Lucas' battalion, regular artillery, relieved Lieutenant Kemper, commanding, 1 officer, and 45 enlisted men last night. Number of fleet remains the same.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. T. MILES,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *January 27, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain Culpepper and 7 officers and 100 enlisted men, from Colquitt's brigade, relieved last night Captain Elliott, 6 officers, and 100 enlisted men, from same brigade. Two shots fired at the fort yesterday, one of which missed. Too hazy to see fleet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. T. MILES.

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *January 27, 1864.*

I have the honor to report my return to duty at this post.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *January 28, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I returned to the post last night and resumed command this morning. Two 32-pounders were shipped to the city last night. Three shots were fired at the fort yesterday and two last night; all struck. During my absence the parade, from which much of the water has been removed by evaporation, has been in a great measure covered with brick and lime. This is an improvement for the present in the sanitary condition of the work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *January 29, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that at 9 o'clock last night the enemy opened on us with mortars from the middle battery, throwing by morning 123, of which 82 burst in and over the fort. Two Par-

rott shots also struck. I ordered the steamer to return to the city before her cargo had been entirely discharged, as she was in evident danger. No injury was done to the work and no casualties occurred. The firing continues this morning from guns. The thick weather obscures the fleet. A tug was lying very close in at daylight this morning ; I think she could have been struck by Sullivan's Island guns.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 29, 1864.*

The fire is from three 10-inch columbiads, and a 30-pounder Parrott is directed at the south angle, where some open arches have been recently filled from the outside, and which we suspect they have seen. Work going on as usual, and no damage done.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 29, 1864—11 p. m.*

Shots fired from 10-inch columbiads, 8-inch Parrott, 6-inch Parrott, 40 and 30 pounder Parrotts at south angle, 156 ; 129 hit. Mortar shells fired, 13 ; 7 hit. Damage, trifling. Casualties, 1 man wounded in ankle.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 30, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that at daylight yesterday the enemy commenced his fire with a 30-pounder, a 100-pounder, a 200-pounder Parrott, and a 10-inch columbiad ; 156 shots were fired, 129 of which struck. The south angle was the object of their aim ; an hour's work at dark repaired the injury it received. At 3 p. m. the flag staff was shot down ; it was first replaced upon a small and afterwards upon a larger staff by Private F. Schafer, Company A, Lucas' battalion, who stood on the top of the traverse and repeatedly waved the flag in the sight of the enemy. He was assisted by Corpl. L. Bressentiam and Private Charles Banks, of the same corps, and by Mr. H. B. Middleton, of the Signal Corps, who is acting as adjutant of the post in the absence of the regular officer.

They were exposed to a rapid and accurate fire of shells. At the close of the scene Schafer, springing from a cloud of the smoke and dust of the bursting shell, stood long waving his hat in triumph. It was a most gallant deed, and the effect upon the garrison was



most inspiring. Thirteen mortar shells were also fired; 7 of which struck. At dark the bombardment ceased. The steamer arrived with troops, stores, lumber, and sand.

Captain Morrison, with 6 officers and 100 men from Colquitt's brigade, relieved Captain Johnston's detachment. Two old 32-pounder casemate carriages were shipped to the city. The fire has been resumed this morning, but is directed mainly at the west angle.

The following persons were wounded : On the night of the 28th, Lieut. J. C. Logan, head, by brick, slight; 29th, Private J. H. Heffery, Company I, Twenty-third Georgia, contused back, slight.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 30, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 2 gun-boats, 2 tugs, 14 sailing vessels inside; the Wabash and 6 block-aders outside; 5 steamers and 10 schooners in Light-House Inlet. Fire direct on the west angle from one 200-pounder at Gregg and one 100-pounder at the middle battery, probably the gun formerly used against the city. A garrison gin is now stationed in the adjoining embrasure. Number of shots fired since morning, 159; hit, 138; missed, 21. West angle much cut.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 31, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report that there was no firing last night; it was resumed this morning as usual. A heavy cargo of sand and lumber was discharged last night. A 42-pounder was placed in the northwest casemate ready to be mounted; a second, with cracked band, is half way up the slope and will be on the berm to-day for shipment to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *January 31, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report that the firing was continued to-day from the 200-pounder at Gregg and from a 100-pounder in position where the gin was observed yesterday. It was directed against the southwest angle, which is a good deal cut. Much of the

work done on it last night still remains. Number of shots, 131 ; hit, 114 ; missed, 17. The fleet is unchanged, except in the absence of two blockaders. The nearest monitor was observed to have beams projecting from the sides similar to the Ironsides. No casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*Record of shots fired at Fort Sumter during the month of January, 1864.*

Date.	Struck.					Missed.				Total fired.
	Land guns.	Mortar shells.	Shots at night.	Mortar shells at night.	Total struck.	Day shots.	Day mortar shots.	Night shells.	Total missed.	
January 10.....	7				7	2			2	9
26.....	1				1	1			1	2
27.....	3		2		5					5
28.....				82	82			41	41	123
29.....	129	7			136	27	6		33	169
30.....	138				138	21			21	159
31.....	114				114	17			17	131
Grand total.....	392	7	2	82	483	68	6	41	115	598

Respectfully submitted.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

FORT SUMTER, *February 1, 1864.*

There has been no firing on the fort to-day.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *February 1, 1864.*

I have the honor to report that the firing was discontinued last night. A steamer and schooner discharged full cargoes of sand. An alarm was caused by the firing of a musket to seaward of the fort. The parapet was manned very satisfactorily.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *February 2, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the enemy fired four 30-pounder Parrott shots at us yesterday, 1 of which missed, and 2 last night, which missed. Forty-two-pounder, cracked band, was placed on the berm ready for shipment to the city at 7.30 this morning. The enemy opened with two 30-pounders, and afterward with a 300-pounder and four monitors and a 100-pounder Parrott from Wagner, at a blockade-runner ashore on Sullivan's Island. Several shells have exploded in her. Firing still continues.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *February 2, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the enemy's fire was continued to-day all day upon the wreck. Several shells exploded with much effect within her. At 1 p. m., she was seen to be on fire; it afterward subsided. At 2 p. m., three tugs came up to the monitors. Soon after one of the monitors opened with three field guns from her deck. To this Sullivan's Island replied, exploding some shells so near the monitor that the fragments struck her and caused a very perceptible decrease in the activity of the field-gun detachments. The bombardment of the wreck is now slowly subsiding; her back appears to be broken. Nothing of immediate interest at this post to-day; fleet unchanged. Two of the monitors are protected from torpedo-boats by projecting beams. They did not approach nearer to Sullivan's Island than 2,000 yards. Their ricochet shots failed to reach the object, and that sort of firing was after awhile abandoned. The best practice was from the three 100-pounders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *February 3, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 2 Parrott shots were fired at the fort yesterday which struck, and 1 last night which also struck. The firing on the wreck continued last night from 30-pounder Parrotts at Gregg, and was resumed slowly this morning by their guns and two monitors, one of which had field pieces again on her deck. Captain Mulvaney, 6 officers, and 100 men, from Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers, relieved Captain Burgess' detachment from Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *February 4, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 3 shots were fired at the fort yesterday morning which struck, and 3 last night, which exploded over head. A rifled 42-pounder was mounted night before last in the northwest pan-coupé. One monitor is firing 11-inch and 15-inch shells at the wreck this morning. The sea being smooth the ricochet fire is effective.

The fleet consists of Ironsides, 4 monitors, 14 sailing vessels, 2 gun-boats, 1 tug inside; 10 schooners, 5 steamers in Light-House Inlet; 5 blockaders, 2 schooners, and 2 tugs outside.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 5, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that there was no firing at the fort yesterday. No change visible in the fleet this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *February 6, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the 42-pounder rifle, with cracked band, was removed to the city last night by Mr. Lacoste. All quiet yesterday and last night. Weather too thick for correct observations of fleet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 7, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Capt. H. T. Kennon, 6 officers, and 100 men, from Colquitt's brigade, relieved Captain Culpepper's detachment last night. The fleet consists of the iron-clads, as usual, 5 tugs, and 15 sailing vessels inside; 5 blockaders and 2 schooners outside; 4 steamers, 8 schooners, and 3 steam derricks in Light-House Inlet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *February 9, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the fleet the same as usual this morning; it is difficult to say whether there are four or five monitors. One shot fired at the fort yesterday. Lieutenant-Kemper, 2 officers, and 60 men relieved Captain Colhoun last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *February 12, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that there is only one steamer in Light-House Inlet this morning. Ten schooners remain and the rest of the fleet is unchanged. The flag-staff at the middle battery was shot away by our guns last night; it has been replaced this morning. Small working parties at Gregg and Wagner. Captain Carson, 2 officers, and 50 men from Twenty-Fifth South Carolina Volunteers, and Lieutenant McJunkin, 2 officers, and 50 men from Eighteenth South Carolina Volunteers, relieved Captain Morrison, of Colquitt's brigade, who was ordered to report to the brigade. General Colquitt on James Island. Forty-two-pounder rifle arrived. One shell fired yesterday; fragments struck.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 13, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that two self-anchoring torpedoes were cut adrift last night between this post and Fort Moultrie on the ebb tide. I directed the navy guard-boat, under the command of Midshipman Wilkins, to accompany the torpedo-boat and locate operation. An 8-inch rifle was mounted last night in the casemate on the northwest face next southwest of the new sally-port. Weather too hazy for observation with the glass.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 14, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 3 shots were fired at the fort yesterday, all of which struck. As our flag was being lowered a single shot was fired which cut off the staff near the top; it was

regarded generally as being a good shot. Steam water-boat arrived last night. Banded 32-pounder rifle shipped to the city. Weather foggy ; no observation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *February 15, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 4 tugs, and 15 sailing vessels inside this morning ; the Wabash and 4 other blockaders outside ; 3 steamers and 7 schooners in Light-House Inlet. Lieutenant Johnston, 2 officers, and 50 men came prematurely from Mount Pleasant and relieved one-half of the last detachment from Colquitt's brigade ; the remainder will be relieved to-night. Please state this to General Jordan so that they may receive orders. No firing on this fort yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 16, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report that no change of importance has taken place in the fleet since the last report. Captain Reddy, 2 officers, and 50 men from the Twenty-first Regiment South Carolina Volunteers relieved the remainder of the detachment of Colquitt's brigade, under command of Captain Kennon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. CARSON,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *February 17, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report the fleet unchanged in number this morning. A working party is engaged remodeling the embrasures at Gregg and lowering their soles, which were much disturbed by the blast from the heavy guns. Two ladies were seen on the parapet of Wagner yesterday ; they were afterwards observed to visit the Ironsides. One shell fired at flag yesterday morning ; three of the fragments took effect ; also considered good shot.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *February 20, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 4 tugs, and 15 sailing vessels inside this morning ; 5 blockaders outside, and 4 river steamers and 6 schooners in Light-House Inlet. No wooden gun-boats in sight except those of deep draught used as blockaders. A party working at the outworks of Gregg, cutting down the slopes to a lower level. A detachment of 3 officers and 50 men from Eighteenth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers relieved 50 men of the Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers last night. The provisions of paragraph 3, Special Orders, No. 39, department headquarters, appear to have been misunderstood at the headquarters of Seventh Military District, as no relief came from that quarter last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. I. JONES,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 21, 1864.*

I have the honor to report that there are two wooden gun-boats inside this morning ; in other respects the fleet remains the same except that a three-masted propeller appears to be sunk outside in about 5 fathoms of water. She lies in the direction of the buoy formerly known as the Cumming's Point buoy ; she is one of the heavy-draught blockaders. Six officers and 100 men from the Twenty-second South Carolina Volunteers and 3 officers and 54 men from the Holcombe Legion relieved 9 officers and 150 men from the Eighteenth South Carolina Volunteers. I must call attention to the fact that no order for nor notice of this change was extended to me. Two shots were fired at us yesterday, both of which struck. The soles of all the embrasures at Gregg have been lowered and their splay very much increased, affording greater facilities for the guns to assist in defense against an attack.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. I. JONES,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 22, 1864.*

SIR : I have the honor to report the fleet unchanged this morning ; all colors flying ; a national salute was fired at sunrise ; from the rapidity of the firing and caliber of the guns, it is almost certain that the Ironsides participated. The practice of our mortar batteries on Sullivan's Island has been excellent this morning, silencing the 30-pounder at Gregg. Four Parrott shots fired yesterday ; 3 struck, 1 mortar shell missed. Captain Fleming with 60 men relieved Lieutenant Kemper last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. I. JONES,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *February 23, 1864.*

SIR: All quiet and hazy this morning. Two shots hit yesterday. Two of enemy's picket-boats approached within 500 yards last night. If they return to-night I will open with boat howitzer from north berm.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 24, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain China, 2 lieutenants, and 50 men from the Twenty-fifth relieved Captain Carson's detachment last night, and Captain Brown, 3 officers, and 50 men from the Twenty-seventh relieved Lieutenant Lance. Weather hazy. I omitted to mention yesterday that after the morning report was sent in on Monday the Ironsides was distinctly seen to fire two salutes, one at meridian, another at sunset. This sets at rest the question as to her armament being on board.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 25, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Lieutenant Craig, Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers, with 50 men, was relieved by Lieutenant Galloway, Twenty-third South Carolina Volunteers, with 50 men, last night. The morning being hazy no observation can be taken of the fleet. At 8 p. m., musketry fire was seen near the 2,500-yard buoy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. J. CHINA,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *February 26, 1864.*

Our picket-boat, commanded by Boatswain Smith, captured Yankee picket-boat containing 1 officer and 5 men.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.

Colonel RHETT.

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 29, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 3 wooden gun-boats, 5 tugs, and 12 sailing vessels in Light-House Inlet, and 5 blockaders outside. There are several vessels and a

derrick near the sunken sloop of war. Two tugs came within half a mile of the fort last night. Fort Moultrie was notified of it and fired a few shots, upon which they retired. One shot was fired yesterday, which missed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *February 29, 1864.*

Sixteen of Captain Fleming's men refuse to answer to their names when mustered; they do not refuse to do duty, but appear to think that by answering they will virtually re-enlist, which they are unwilling to do until the decision of the Secretary of War is officially published. If there are any orders on the subject please send them down by to-night's boat.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

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FORT SUMTER, *February 29, 1864.*

The detachment of the Holcombe Legion left this post on the night of the 27th February for Charleston, expecting to proceed to Savannah to rejoin their command.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *March 1, 1864:*

SIR: I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 1 gun-boat, 10 sailing vessels, 1 derrick, 6 schooners inside, and 5 tugs from blockaders outside, and 4 schooners and a steamer in Light-House Inlet. There were no shots fired at the fort yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. H. WILDS,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 2, 1864.*

SIR: The following omitted in yesterday's report: Three tugs came up to Cumming's Point buoy and were made quickly to retire by 3 shots from Sullivan's Island.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *March 2, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 4 tugs, 1 gun-boat, and 11 sailing vessels inside; 7 blockaders outside; 6 schooners and 1 steamer in Light-House Inlet. Six shots were fired at a working party attempting to remove the Brooke gun from the crest of the sea face to the berm; all struck; no one hurt.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *March 3, 1864.*

I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, and 12 sailing vessels inside the bar, 4 blockaders outside, and 6 schooners and 2 steamers in Light-House Inlet. No shots were yesterday fired. The wall gun, marked R. Rushton, and 50 rounds of ammunition were received last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. H. WILDS,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 4, 1864.*

I have the honor to report the fleet unchanged. Lieutenant Moody, 2 officers, and 50 men, from Twenty-third South Carolina Volunteers, relieved Lieutenant Sims with the same force from Twenty-second. Twenty-four-pounder shipped to city last night. No shots.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 5, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 6 tugs, and 13 sailing vessels inside; 7 schooners, 2 steamers in Light-House Inlet, and 5 blockaders. The Brooke gun was placed upon the berm on the night of the 2d for transportation to the city. There were no shots fired at the fort yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. H. WILDS,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *March 6, 1864.*

SIR: Owing to the haziness of the atmosphere no observation can be taken of the fleet. The Brooke gun and a 10-inch are lying on the berm of the sea face. Seven shots were yesterday fired at the fort, all of which struck; 1 shell wounded 2 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. H. WILDS,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 7, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the Ironsides, 4 monitors, 2 gunboats, 13 sailing vessels, and 6 tugs inside; 7 blockaders and a schooner near Beach Inlet; a derrick and schooner at the wreck, and 3 steamers and 5 schooners in Light-House Inlet. No activity apparent on Morris Island. Captain Parker, First Artillery, Captain McKerall, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers, and Captain Walter, Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers, relieved detachments of 60, 50, and 50 men from the same corps, respectively, last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 8, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report no change of importance has taken place in the fleet. Lieutenant McKinney, with 50 men of the Twenty-second South Carolina Volunteers, relieved Lieutenant Able and 50 men of the same command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. H. WILDS,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *March 9, 1864.*

I have the honor to report that there are 5 monitors inside this morning; in other respects the fleet is about the same, except that only one blockader is visible, which may be owing to their remoteness and the thickness of the weather. Ten shells fired last night, 8 of which exploded over the fort, 1 struck the slope, and 1 passed over. Gregg opened on Simkins this morning, who replied, together with Sullivan's Island.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *March 10, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that no correct observations have been made this morning. Two tugs are lying at the picket station and two monitors abreast of the 2,500-yard buoy. At 8 o'clock two large barges floated up the channel in the direction of Mount Pleasant, where they will probably be recovered. The wind was too high to attempt it from this post.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 12, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that one monitor has just gone to the southward, leaving four. Some of the wooden vessels are provided with projecting beams and chairs for defense against torpedoes. A mortar or the re-enforce of a burst gun has just been carried away from Gregg.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 13, 1864.*

SIR: There are again four monitors inside this morning. The whole infantry garrison was relieved last night. It now consists of Captain Hopkins, Twenty-seventh South Carolina, 52 men; Captain Tarrh, Twenty-first, 50 men; Captain Mazyck, Twenty-fifth, 48 men; Captain Covington, Twenty-third, 49 men; Lieutenant Vaughan, Twenty-second, 92 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 14, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report nothing unusual this morning with the exception of a number of officers and two ladies visited Gregg, placed a telescope glass on the battery for the purpose of reviewing the harbor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *March 15, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report all quiet this morning. Last night at 10.30 o'clock several musket shots were fired in the direction of the fort from the mouth of Vincent's Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 15, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened on crib-work on east angle at 10.30 a. m., firing 143 shots from two 100-pounders at middle battery; one 200-pounder and one 30-pounder Parrott at Gregg; 100 shots struck, cutting away some portion of the crib-work; 5 men were wounded; none dangerously; 1 negro dangerously. Firing ceased at sunset.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 16, 1864.*

I have the honor to report that the enemy resumed their fire on the east angle this morning, but ceased after a few rounds. The fleet remains the same. The wounded yesterday were William Scarborough, Company D, Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers, severe fracture clavicle and humerus; Solomon Higgins, Chaplain Freeman, and J. F. Wilkes, slightly; 1 negro, property of Caleb Caker, severely.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 17, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that a wooden gun-boat and a monitor went off to the southward yesterday at 1 p. m. No further change has occurred. A 42-pounder banded and rifled gun was received last night. No further firing took place yesterday beyond the 5 shots mentioned in my morning report, 4 of which struck.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *March 18, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report affairs as usual. Four shots were fired yesterday from light guns; 3 struck.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *March 19, 1864.*

SIR: Nothing new this morning. Forty-two-pounder rifle was mounted on evening of 17th.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 21, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report no change in the fleet, excepting the Wabash not in sight. A working party was observed at the Swamp Angel yesterday. I communicated the fact to Colonel Yates, who opened upon them. Two shots fired at the fort; 1 missed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 22, 1864.*

I have the honor to report the fleet in the same position, the weather having caused no change. A forage party is to be seen this morning at the Swamp Angel. Captain Parker, with 61 men of First Regiment South Carolina Artillery, was relieved last night by Captain Mitchel, with 50 men of the same regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *March 23, 1864.*

I have the honor to report the fleet as usual. The palisades in front of the western salient of Gregg were broken down for a space of 30 yards by the surf last night. A larger number of tents than usual appear to be on Black Island. No injury has been done by the gale at this post. Enemy engaged in building palisades in front of middle battery.

Yours, very respectfully,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *March 31, 1864.*

The condition of affairs remains unchanged. The enemy fired 3 shots at the fort yesterday afternoon, 2 of which struck, and 4 last night, all of which struck. The position of the fleet is unchanged.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 1, 1864.*

SIR: The only change this morning is that a new embrasure has been made for the 300-pounder looking towards this post. Four shots fired yesterday; 3 struck.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 2, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report all quiet this morning. Three shots fired yesterday; all struck. The post returns have not been received.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 3, 1864.*

SIR: Eight shots were fired while the obstructions were being taken in before daylight this morning; 6 struck, but did no damage. No further change.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 3, 1864.*

Enemy commenced firing slowly from two mortars at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.



FORT SUMTER, April 4, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the firing continued up to 5 a. m. There were 66 mortar and 1 Parrott shell fired at the fort, of which 57 struck. One negro killed; no injury done to the work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, April 5, 1864.

I have the honor to report everything is quiet this morning. The enemy are engaged, with a small working party, repairing the palisades at Gregg.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, April 6, 1864.

(Received 7th.)

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain King's company relieved Captain Mitchel's last night. Captain Le Gette, of Twenty-first South Carolina; Captain Sellers, Twenty-fifth, and Captain Allston, of Twenty-seventh, relieved Captains Davis, Izlar, and Chisolm, respectively. Fourteen shots fired last night; all exploded about the fort except 3. Some slight damage was done to the palisades and slopes at Gregg by the high tides.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, April 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that a fifth monitor has just entered the bar; nothing else unusual.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, April 8, 1864.

SIR: Five monitors still here. The detachments from the Twenty-second and Twenty-third South Carolina Volunteers were relieved last night by troops from same corps.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *April 9, 1864.*

SIR: The number of monitors unchanged since last report. Four shots were fired at the fort yesterday; 3 struck.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

—

FORT SUMTER, *April 10, 1864—9.45 a. m.*

SIR: No change in the fleet and no firing since last report.

Your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

—

FORT SUMTER, *April 13, 1864—11.25 a. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that a frigate, supposed to be the Wabash, has returned and resumed her former station outside the bar. There are no other changes, except that a large river steamer has joined the inside fleet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

—

SUMTER, *April 13, 1864.*

Can I fire a salute of 13 guns at 12 o'clock to-day in honor of the capture of this fort? The firing will be done by the gun used for firing our evening salute.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

General BEAUREGARD.

[Indorsement.]

Approved.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

—

FORT SUMTER, *April 13, 1864.*

SIR: By permission of the commanding general, I fire salute at meridian.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

P. S.—J. P. Huger, signal corps, was killed half an hour ago by a Parrott shell.

FORT SUMTER, *April 14, 1864—11 a. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report everything quiet this morning. The enemy fired at the fort during yesterday 23 shots, 3 of which missed, and during the night 12 shot, half of which passed over.

Very obediently, yours,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 15, 1864—11 a. m.*

SIR: There is nothing unusual to report this morning. The condition of the fleet remains the same as at last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 16, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

SIR: Three shots were fired at the fort last night; 2 have just been fired; no casualties. The condition of the fleet remains the same as the last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 17, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the number of shots fired at the fort since last report has been 14, of which 5 passed over. The condition of the fleet remains the same, excepting the appearance of two additional war vessels outside of the bar.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 18, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the condition of affairs as unchanged this morning. The number shots fired since last report is 8, 2 of which passed over, all of them last night.

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *April 19, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report everything quiet this morning. Two shots were fired last night, 1 of which missed. Nothing new among the fleet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 20, 1864—11.10 a. m.*

SIR: Everything remains quiet this morning. Eight shots were fired last night, 2 of which passed over.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 21, 1864—11 a. m.*

SIR: All remains quiet. The Wabash and another large war steamer not in sight this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 22, 1864—11.45 p. m.*

The relief sent from the Twentieth to-night was 25 men and 3 officers short. In the absence of orders I have consequently detained a company of the Twenty-second, which was to have been relieved.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 22, 1864—12.40 p. m.*

SIR: There is nothing of any importance to report this morning. The enemy had a small party working on the Swamp Battery yesterday, but have left off to-day, the sentinel only being apparent. The war steamer, not in sight yesterday, has reappeared.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *April 23, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that Captain Gunter, Twentieth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, 2 officers, 64 men, and Lieutenant Haltiwanger, of same regiment, 2 officers, 53 men, relieved last night Lieutenant Calhoun, Twenty-third Regiment, 2 officers, 51 men; Lieutenant Able, Twenty-second Regiment, 2 officers, 53 men; and 1 officer, 9 men of Captain Dean's detachment, also of Twenty-second Regiment. The 42-pounder rifle gun found in north-east angle some time ago was dismounted and is ready for shipment. Four shots were fired at the fort during the night; all struck.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 24, 1864—12 m.*

SIR: The remainder of the Twenty-second was relieved last night by a detachment from the Twentieth South Carolina Volunteers. There is nothing of importance to report this morning. The sentinels at Cumming's Point since yesterday are composed of the enemy's negro troops.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 25, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that an additional monitor has appeared inside the bar, and also that the monitor on picket has removed her defensive outrigging. Everything remains as quiet as usual.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I resumed command last night, relieving Captain Mitchel, who returned to the city. The defensive arrangements of the fort have during my absence made considerable progress, especially upon the sea face. There are six monitors in the harbor; in other respects no change is perceived in the disposition of the enemy, either afloat or ashore.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *April 27, 1864—12 m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report no change in the enemy's lines this morning, except that negro sentinels are on duty on Morris Island. Six shots fired last night, which burst over the fort. Captain Fleming, 1 officer, and 60 men relieved Captain King.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 28, 1864—5 p. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened on the fort at 2 p. m., firing from two 10-inch and one 13-inch mortars. Fired 51 shots, of which 28 missed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *April 29, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

(Via signal to Sullivan's Island.)

I have the honor to report 158 shots, 51 of which struck. No damage done.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *April 30, 1864.*

(Via signal to Sullivan's Island.)

Two hundred and thirteen shells fired at the fort yesterday and last night; no injury. Have you any post-return blanks? Please answer.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

HEADQUARTERS,

*Fort Sumter, April 30, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 142 shells have been fired during the day, of which 92 missed. No change has been observed in the fleet. A number of wagons were engaged hauling ammunition to the mortar battery this afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



HEADQUARTERS,  
*Fort Sumter, May 1, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 142 shells were fired during the day yesterday, of which 92 missed. After dark 25 were fired, of which 13 missed, the fire ceasing at 8.30 p. m. At 11.45 a volley of seven mortars at least was fired from the middle battery. This number is included in the sum of 25.

Captain Bateman, Sixth Georgia; Captain Keeley, Nineteenth Georgia, and Captain Grace, Twenty-seventh Georgia, each with 2 lieutenants and 50 men, relieved the same number of troops from Hagood's brigade, under the command of Captains Hammond, Clarkson, and Reddy. Much ammunition transported to mortar battery in the afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Two volleys of 7 shells each fired to-day; one at 1 p. m., the other at 6.30 p. m.

—

FORT SUMTER, *May 2, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that two volleys of 7 shells were fired yesterday; one at 1 p. m., and two at 7 p. m. No one hurt.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

—

FORT SUMTER, *May 3, 1864—3 p. m.*

Fourteen shots fired yesterday at the fort; slow firing going on now; no damage.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON.

—

SUMTER, *May 3, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that two volleys of 7 mortar shells were fired yesterday, one at 6 a. m., the other at 12 m. One negro severely wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *May 4, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 61 mortar shells were fired yesterday, of which 24 struck; and 31 last night, of which 11 struck. A portion of the shelling last night was evidently done to prevent work on the boom in front of the fort. The telegraph cable was reunited last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 5, 1864—12.59 p. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report everything quiet this morning. The sentinels on Gregg are negroes. Besides the Ironsides and 6 monitors, there are only 2 war vessels inside the bar and 2 block-aders outside. Thirteen shells fired at the fort yesterday, 3 of which struck.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 6, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report nothing unusual this morning. Negro sentinels in the enemy's batteries. A small working party engaged in hauling sods to middle battery

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 7, 1864—12.15 p. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report nothing unusual this morning. A small working party hauling sods to middle battery. Fifteen shells from mortars fired at the fort last night, of which 12 struck.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 8, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report everything quiet here this morning. Five Parrott shells fired at the fort about 9 o'clock to-day; all struck. A detachment from First Artillery reported here last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,

*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, May 9, 1864—11 a. m.

SIR : I have the honor to report everything quiet here this morning. Captain Grace, 50 men of Twenty-seventh Georgia Regiment, were sent off last night, 40 men of the First Artillery having arrived to relieve them the night previous. Another field gun was observed mounted at Gregg this morning on the parapet, between the 200-pounder and the 30-pounders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, May 9, 1864—1 p. m.

SIR : The enemy have a gin hoisted over one of the 100-pounder guns in middle battery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, May 9, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Seven monitors now inside the bar.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, May 10, 1864—10.10 a. m.

SIR : I have the honor to report there [are] seven monitors inside the bar, and for the last two days steamers have been observed visiting them, I suppose supplying them with ammunition. There is a small working party near the flag-staff in middle battery, and the gin mentioned yesterday is still in position, doubtless for the purpose of mounting a gun, as there is none to be seen under it now. Yesterday evening a volley of 6 mortar shells was fired at the fort, 5 of which struck. Two Parrott shells, both of which struck, were fired also. This morning 4 shots from a 10-inch columbiad in the extreme left of middle battery were fired at the east angle ; 2 struck.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, May 11, 1864—12.35 p. m.

No firing on this post for the last twenty-four hours. Gin removed from over carriage on which was formerly mounted 100-



pounder Parrott second from our left of middle battery, and no gun put in its place. Field pieces removed from parapet of Battery Gregg. Fleet as usual.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *May 13, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened fire on the east angle of fort shortly before 9 o'clock, and up to this time (10 o'clock) have fired 25 shots, 20 of which struck; firing continues. The water-boat did not come down last night, and as we have only enough water to last us the day, it is absolutely necessary that she should be sent to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. PARKER,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *May 13, 1864—1 p. m.*

SIR: You have already been informed of the fire opened upon the fort by the land batteries of the enemy, since which report a monitor has approached and opened upon the sea face.

C. W. PARKER,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *May 13, 1864—3 p. m.*

No particular cause for enemy's firing; seems to be premeditated. One 200-pounder and one 10-inch columbiad in Gregg, one 100-pounder and two columbiads in middle battery are firing; also two monitors.

C. W. PARKER.

Lieut. I. JONES.

SUMTER, *May 13, 1864—8 p. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report 238 shots fired from land guns, 27 of which missed; 180 monitor shots, 43 of which missed. A private of the Twentieth Regiment, who had his foot taken off by a fragment of shell, is the only man hurt. Damage trifling in interior of fort. The engineer has not yet reported on the condition of outside. The fire has almost ceased.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. PARKER,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, May 13, 1864—8 p. m.

All quiet, except an occasional Parrott shell. Fired since 8 a. m. 33 shots, of which 9 missed. Five monitors in sight.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, May 13, 1864—10 p. m.

SIR: No particular damage done to fort; slow firing from mortars now going on. Private G. S. Burgess, Company I, Twentieth Regiment, is the man wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, May 14, 1864—8 a. m.

I have the honor to report 2 Parrotts, three 10-inch columbiads, and seventy-four 10-inch mortar shells fired at the fort since 6 p. m. yesterday; no damage done. Shelling last night very poor; of the 74 mortar shells fired 48 struck outside. One man, Peter Moser, Company C, First South Carolina Artillery, slightly wounded.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, May 14, 1864—11 a. m.

SIR: The fire of the enemy is at the east angle and part of the sea face near it; the monitors are firing from 15-inch, 11-inch, and, I believe, 200-pounder Parrotts; the land guns same as yesterday. The engineer in charge advises me to suggest that it would be greatly to our advantage if the fire of the enemy could be diverted by our batteries at Fort Johnson and Sullivan's Island.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, May 14, 1864—5.55 p. m.

None of the Twentieth Regiment now here came from Branchville.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *May 14, 1864—8 p. m.*

The number of shots fired at fort to-day is as follows : From monitors, 70, of which 46 struck ; Parrott guns on land, 177, of which 160 struck ; columbiads, 98, of which 83 struck ; mortars, 2, none struck. Total fired from 8 a. m. to 7 p. m., 347, of which 289 struck. The fire from land guns became rapid at 9 a. m. The first monitor came in at 10, the second half an hour later ; the second retired at 12.30 p. m., the first at 3. Firing from guns has ceased, that from mortars commenced. One monitor was seen moving southward over the bar this afternoon ; she is not one of those engaged either yesterday or to-day. One negro slightly wounded in the leg this afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 15, 1864—10 a. m.*

Have the honor to report all quiet. From 7 p. m. yesterday there have been fired 12 Parrott shot, of which 1 missed the fort ; and 21 mortar shell, of which 8 missed. One negro workman killed ; no one else hurt, and no damage done. Six monitors inside bar ; rest of fleet as usual.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 16, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

From 8 a. m. yesterday to 8 this morning the enemy has fired at this post 80 Parrott shells, of which 23 missed. No one hurt and no damage done. Fleet as yesterday, except that there are two monitors in front of the fort.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *May 16, 1864—1 p. m.*

Very pretty little engagement just terminated. At 11.15 a. m., two monitors moved up and opened fire on east angle and face ; Sullivan's Island immediately replied, and after an hour's sharp fire drove them both off. Each of them was struck several times, and one evidently seriously injured ; pilot-house torn to ribbons. On leaving both showed as signal pennant colored white, red, and white. The usual slow fire from Morris Island has been resumed. No one hurt and no damage done.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *May 17, 1864—9.35 a. m.*

Since 8 a. m. yesterday there have been fired at this post 144 Parrott shells, of which 33 missed; 22 columbiad shot, of which 3 missed, and 22 monitor shot, of which 4 missed. All the fire directed at east angle; not much further damage done. Two negroes slightly wounded. One of the monitors left last night; but five remain.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lient. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUMTER, *May 18, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

There are six monitors in sight this morning. One of the 30-pounder Parrotts is being removed from Gregg. There have been fired at this post since 8 a. m. yesterday 106 Parrott shells, of which 31 missed the fort. No one hurt and no damage.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 19, 1864—9.45 a. m.*

I have the honor to report 32 shots fired at fort since yesterday evening, 26 of which struck, all 30-pounder Parrotts. Captain Keeley, Nineteenth Georgia, 2 officers, 50 men, was relieved by Lieutenant Siddall and 48 men, Twentieth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers.

Very respectfully,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUMTER, *May 20, 1864—2 a. m.*

Enemy's barges are nearly on a line with telegraph posts between here and Fort Johnson, and about one-third of distance from here. They seem still advancing.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

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SUMTER, *May 20, 1864—2.40 a. m.*

The barges have gone back to near Gregg.

J. C. MITCHEL.

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

SUMTER, *May 20, 1864—3 a. m.*

Attempt to cut the telegraph wire, I think of six of enemy's barges. I fired on them with boat howitzer and they retreated, replying 1 shot.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *May 20, 1864.*

SIR: Six shots fired at fort since last report; 2 missed. The firing ceased at 10 a. m. The fleet quiet; five monitors in sight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 20, 1864—10 a. m.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that six of enemy's boats came between this fort and James Island, as far as the line of telegraph posts, about 1.30 a. m. When they turned to go out, I fired 4 shells at them from boat howitzer, but without hurting them. The enemy replied with 3 shots from Gregg, none of which struck. A shot was also fired from a howitzer in one of the boats, which passed over. Lieutenant Cannon, Company F, Twentieth Regiment, was wounded in the heel by a gun accidentally fired by one of his own men. The monitor on picket has removed her torpedo guard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *May 21, 1864—7 o'clock.*

The enemy have just brought a 30-pounder Parrott down to Gregg, to replace, I suppose, the one removed a few days ago.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 21, 1864.*

SIR: Everything quiet here this morning. I am still 6 officers short; none has arrived in Lieutenant Whitridge's place. Four shots from Gregg fired, 2 at the fort (1 hit) and 2 at boats near wharf (both missed).

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON.

SUMTER, *May 22, 1864—2 a. m.*

Five of enemy's barges coming up to line of telegraph posts, same place as night before last; more of them lying at Vincent's Creek. I would prefer your opening on them. Range from Johnson about the same to second or third shot to-day with 10-inch rifle.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, and*  
Colonel YATES.

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FORT SUMTER, *May 22, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

SIR: Everything quiet here this morning. Enemy's barges came in again last night at 2 o'clock, between this fort and Shell Point, but did not come in so far as they did two nights ago. Six officers and 200 men Twentieth Regiment were relieved last night by 4 officers and 150 men Thirty-second Georgia Regiment. Captain Bate-man's company could not be carried by the boats and is still here.

Very respectfully,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *May 25, 1864.*

Everything quiet here this morning. The enemy put up a flag-staff at Gregg during the night. There is a small working party engaged in sodding in the same battery.

Very respectfully,

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Lieut. S. C. BOYLSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *May 28, 1864—9.20 a. m.*

Last night at 1 o'clock one of the enemy's barges fired a shot from a boat howitzer at the fort. At the same time they fired some small-arms at us. This was followed shortly by another, after which it pulled off in the direction of Cumming's Point. I did not fire at it. There was 1 Parrott shot fired at fort this morning which struck.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *May 29, 1864—10 o'clock.*

Everything quiet here this morning. Lieut. H. M. Stuart reported last night for duty at this post. A bronze field piece mounted

at Gregg during the night, pointing toward middle battery ; two monitors at picket station. We have enough water to last until to-night ; no more. Can you not have the boat fixed to-day ? If not, the water must be sent in some other way.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *June 2, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Fifty-five mortar shells fired at fort since last report ; 14 missed. Two Parrott shells fired this morning ; 1 missed ; nobody hurt.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *June 2, 1864—11.40 a. m.*

A 300-pounder Parrott shell has just dismounted a 24-pounder flank casemate howitzer in an important position, breaking the iron wheels and other parts beyond our power of repair. There are two pieces of the same kind with carriages, and all lying useless at Moultrie, I understand. Cannot I have one of them ? Four negroes slightly wounded since morning report.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *June 2, 1864—8 p. m.*

Thirty-nine mortar shells fired at fort ; 25 missed ; 4 Parrott, 1 missed ; 1 of these from 300-pounder. Dismounted 24-pounder howitzer. Three negroes badly scared ; none hurt.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE.

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 3, 1864—9.50 a. m.*

Eleven Parrott shells fired at fort during the night ; 4 missed. A negro on the steam-boat was severely wounded by fragment of one of them as she was approaching the fort.

All quiet this morning.

C. A. WILLIS,  
*Capt., Thirty-second Georgia, Commanding Post.*

Captain NANCE.



FORT SUMTER, *June 4, 1864—7.40 p. m.*

All right. Enemy recommenced mortar fire about 9 this morning ; fired 23 shots, of which 10 missed.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 5, 1864—9.25 a. m.*

Thirty-seven mortar shells fired since last report ; 23 missed. Fleet as usual. Calcium light shown last night from Battery Gregg.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 5, 1864—8.20 p. m.*

Thirty-nine mortar shells fired at fort since last report ; 21 missed. Also 8 Parrott shells ; 1 missed. No one hurt.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

SUMTER, *June 6, 1864.*

No shots since last report. The Ironsides has moved out over the bar, and lies now about 6 miles off.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 7, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Five Parrott shells fired at fort yesterday evening ; 2 missed. The Ironsides not in sight this morning.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 9, 1864—10.15 a. m.*

Everything quiet here this morning. Four shots fired at fort yesterday evening ; 2 missed.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *June 11, 1864—11 o'clock.*

Quiet as usual here this morning. Two shots fired at fort last night; both struck. A small working party to be seen on Wagner.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 12, 1864—10.20 a. m.*

Everything quiet here this morning. Lieutenants Videtto and Dawson, Thirty-second Georgia, were relieved last night by Lieutenants Cardin and Persons, same regiment. Sixteen rifle shells fired at fort yesterday; 10 struck.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 13, 1864.*

The health of the garrison is very good. Out of some 280 white troops there are only 8 on sick report; none serious, and 5 very slightly. Only 4 men have been considered sick enough during the past month to send up to city hospital, chiefly diarrhea and tonsilitis. Do you want a more extended written report?

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, &c.*

Captain NANCE.

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SUMTER, *June 13, 1864—10.20 o'clock.*

Everything quiet here this morning. Thirteen Parrott shots fired at fort yesterday; 1 struck. Also 17 shots from small rifle gun on deck of picket monitor, 2 of which struck. No boat came down last night.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 14, 1864—10.45 a. m.*

The enemy are keeping up more communication by boats among the vessels of the fleet than usual. Some slight change of position in the light pieces at Gregg; also the 30-pounder which they had firing at the Etowah is returned to its original position. A few shots from 30-pounder fired at fort this morning.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *June 15, 1864—11 a. m.*

Everything as usual this morning. Five Parrott shells fired at fort yesterday; 2 missed.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 16, 1864—10 a. m.*

Yankees have working parties on Wagner, middle battery, and Gregg; that on Wagner quite considerable in size. Three-masted steamer, supposed to be Canandaigua, which has been absent for some time, has reappeared.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 17, 1864.*

All quiet here. Four shells fired at fort; 1 hit. Signaling between fleet and Morris Island last night at 12 o'clock. Working party at Gregg now.

MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 17, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Unusual number of rockets thrown up from monitors and Morris Island. Monitors fired a shot in direction of Sullivan's Island; boat to be seen in mouth of Vincent's Creek.

J. C. MITCHEL.

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 19, 1864—12.10 p. m.*

Everything as usual here this morning. Ten Parrott shells fired at fort yesterday; 6 struck.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 20, 1864—11.45 a. m.*

All quiet to-day. Working party sodding at Gregg. Two shells fired at the fort; 1 struck.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *June 20, 1864—9.10 p. m.*

Twenty-six Parrott shots fired at fort to-day ; 11 missed. The flag-staff shot away at 1.30 o'clock by second shell fired, and replaced under sharp fire by Lieut. C. H. Claiborne, First South Carolina Infantry [regulars], assisted by N. F. Devereaux and B. Brannon, of engineer department.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *June 20, 1864.*

It occurs to me that I did not use sufficiently strong terms in my last report in speaking of the exceeding gallantry of the men who replaced the flag to-day ; it took some time to accomplish, under a rapid fire, and at the most imminent personal risk. If, as usual, it be intended to notice the act in the papers, please have stronger terms of praise used than in my previous report.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *June 22, 1864—10.20 a. m.*

Fourteen shots fired at fort yesterday ; 6 struck. There are six monitors inside the bar to-day. Wagons hauling to middle battery and Gregg, some with lumber, some I suppose with ammunition.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *June 24, 1864—10.10 a. m.*

Everything quiet. Twenty-two Parrott shells fired ; 7 missed ; 8 mortar shells, 3 missed ; all since last report.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *June 25, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Everything quiet here this morning. Three Parrott shots fired at fort yesterday at 3 o'clock ; all struck. The first cut away the flag-staff, when another with storm flag was raised in the place. A volley of mortar shells (7 in number) fired in the afternoon ; 5 struck or burst over fort.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *June 25, 1864—11.20 a. m.*

Three-hundred-pounder Parrott from middle battery opened on south angle and teasing fire of 30-pounder on gorge wall. Working parties on Gregg and Wagner ; gin up at latter.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *June 26, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

The enemy's tents on Morris Island have considerably increased in number ; our flag-staff was cut down twice to-day within two minutes ; the second time while being replaced, in the face of sharp fire, by Privates Walter Steele, of the Gist Guard Artillery, and D. E. Badger, Company I, Twentieth South Carolina Volunteers, to whose gallantry I beg leave to call attention. The last staff put up has since been splintered. The enemy's staff at Battery Gregg was shot down from Fort Johnson. Private Moses Davis, Gist Guard, has been severely wounded and his leg cut off.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SUMTER, *June 27, 1864—10.20 a. m.*

Thirty-four shots fired at fort yesterday ; 10 missed. Flag-staff shot away twice. Private Moses Davis, Gist Guard, was struck by a fragment and died in an hour. Small working party at Wagner to-day.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *June 28, 1864—10 a. m.*

Sixteen shots fired at fort yesterday ; 6 missed. Lieutenants Claiborne and Rhett, First South Carolina Infantry [regulars], relieved by Lieutenants Quattlebaum and Stoney, of same command. Everything as usual here this morning. Wagons hauling to Gregg.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *June 29, 1864—11 a. m.*

Working parties at Gregg and middle battery. All quiet here.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, &c.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 7, 1864—4 p. m.*

The enemy continue a heavy fire on us. Their evident intention is to destroy our boom and our defenses against assault, as also to break through the gorge wall. In the first part of their plan they have to some extent succeeded. The fire is quite as damaging as any bombardment since the year commenced. We have no labor to repair. Can't you send me 50 more men?

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,  
*Charleston, July 7, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for information of department.

I have replied to Captain Mitchel that I have no force of laborers or soldiers to send him.

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 7, 1864—6.10 p. m.*

Our flag has been cut down three times, and is torn to pieces. Can you not have me sent the one I made requisition for?

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 8, 1864—11.35 a. m.*

Fire of the enemy not quite so rapid as yesterday. They ceased firing about 12 o'clock last night, and did not recommence until daylight. Twenty shots fired during the night; 4 missed. There is another gun of large caliber mounted at Wagner this morning.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 8, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Three hundred and forty-six shots fired since daylight; 20 missed. Fire continued slowly from 30-pounder Parrotts. The smallest favors in the shape of laborers thankfully received. The monitors have been loading up, apparently with ammunition.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 9, 1864—12 m.*

Fifty-two shots fired during night; 12 missed. Firing this morning about as rapid as yesterday. A new rifle gun mounted at Gregg in the place of 10-inch columbiad missing for several days.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 9, 1864—9 p. m.*

Two hundred and seventy-three shots fired to-day; 27 missed. The gun mounted at Gregg last night is a 200-pounder. A gun mounted at middle battery to-day supposed to be a 100-pounder. Slow firing from 30-pounders now going on.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 10, 1864—1.40 p. m.*

Seventy-six shots fired during the night; 28 missed. Private M. D. Howell, Gist Guard, slightly wounded yesterday.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 10, 1864—8.05 p. m.*

One hundred and sixty-four shots fired at fort to-day; 17 missed; most of them from 200-pounder guns in Gregg and middle battery. The picket monitor fired 3 shots at fort just after daylight this morning; 2 missed.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 11, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

Thirty-seven shells fired during the night; 12 missed. Firing this morning slightly more rapid than yesterday from two guns in Gregg and two in middle battery.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 11, 1864—8.40 p. m.*

Enemy has fired rather more rapidly to-day and on the same points. One hundred and seventy-six Parrott shots have been fired at us to-day, of which only 4 missed. Six monitors in sight (an increase of two) and a large steamer seen coming from southward this evening.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 12, 1864—8 p. m.*

One hundred and sixty-two shells fired at fort to-day ; 5 missed.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 12, 1864.—10.40.*

Firing to-day from three 8-inch Parrotts, two in Gregg and one in middle battery. Shots fired during the night, 63, of which 12 missed.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 13, 1864.*

Forty shots fired during night ; 9 missed. Three guns in Wagner, all firing to-day ; also the 200-pounders at Gregg and middle battery. The 100-pounder at middle battery I have reason to believe was burst this morning.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 13, 1864—8 p. m.*

Two hundred and thirty-four shots fired at fort to-day ; 32 missed. Most of their shells this afternoon were loaded with incendiary composition, which has done no damage, however. The firing has been from both Gregg and Wagner, and chiefly from 8-inch rifles ; very little assistance given us by Sullivan's Island ; none by Fort Johnson.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *July 14, 1864.*

The firing this morning is from two guns in Wagner and one in middle battery; this last is the one supposed to have burst yesterday. Private Lemuel Findley, Company B, Thirty-second Georgia, slightly wounded in foot on 12th. Private B. T. Bivins, of same company, severely wounded last night by fragment of mortar shell; right leg amputated. Sixteen Parrott shots fired during night, 1 missed; also 48 mortar shells, 18 missed.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 14, 1864—8 p. m.*

Three hundred and eight shots fired at fort to-day; 29 missed. Very rapid fire during a portion of the day, and no assistance at that time from the island batteries. Afterward, when the fire had slacked considerably, Fort Johnson and Sullivan's Island opened and measurably annoyed them, and interfered with their fire. We want those negroes badly.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 15, 1864—10 a. m.*

Thirty-eight Parrott shots (7 missed); 48 mortar shells (6 fell outside), were fired at fort last night. One negro severely wounded. Firing this morning very slow from two guns in Wagner, one in Gregg.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *July 15, 1864—12.30 p. m.*

The enemy are mounting a heavy gun in north angle of Wagner.

MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 15, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

The engineer at this post works some 80 men every night on the gorge face without any cover, and where they are infinitely more exposed to fire than those other engineers could possibly be in fixing the boom. The moon only shines now half the night.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain, &c.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 15, 1864—8.40 p. m.*

Two hundred and thirty-seven shots fired at us to-day, 35 missed; also 20 mortar shells, 4 missed. Private D. Punyard, Gist Guard, struck by a fragment of shell and died in an hour this afternoon. Enemy's fire directed at southwest angle part of the time to-day. Fire to-day from guns somewhat lighter in caliber.

MITCHEL,  
Captain.

Captain NANCE, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 16, 1864—9 p. m.*

One hundred and ninety shots fired to-day, 49 missed; also 11 mortar shells, 6 missed. Firing directed at south and southwest angles.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
Captain, &c.

Captain NANCE, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 16, 1864—10.45 a. m.*

Fire much heavier than usual last night and very annoying. One hundred and forty-seven shots fired, of which 60 were Parrott, 12 missing, and 87 mortar, 21 missing. One negro killed last night; 1 white man, Daniel Davis, of Company G, Thirty-second Georgia, mortally, and 2 others, Privates William Warren and William Carroll, of same regiment, slightly wounded. Enemy's fire this morning somewhat slack at south angle. Our batteries firing remarkably well and with good effect.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. W. F. NANCE, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SUMTER, *July 17, 1864—10.50 a. m.*

The enemy have put up two frame houses near middle battery; nothing unusual besides. Firing slow this morning. Wagner shooting at south angle; Gregg at southwest angle. Corpl. I. W. Heath, Company C, Thirty-second Georgia, wounded in head this morning, not dangerously. They fired 35 Parrott shots, 7 missed; 47 mortar shells, 13 missed, fired at fort during night.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
Captain.

Captain NANCE, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 17, 1864—11.20 a. m.*

I forgot to mention that there were 2 negroes slightly wounded yesterday.

MITCHEL,  
Captain.

Captain NANCE, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 17, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

One hundred and seventy-one shots (27 missed), 33 mortar shells (11 missed), fired at fort to-day. Private John Hart, Gist Guard, slight wound in thigh; several others in same company bruised at same time.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 18, 1864—2 p. m.*

Thirty-four Parrott shots (12 missed), and 42 mortar shells (20 missed) fired during night. Private J. H. Phillips, Company B, Thirty-second Georgia, slightly wounded in the back. Firing this morning same as yesterday, at south and southwest angles. A small house built during the night about 150 yards from Battery Gregg.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 18, 1864—2.20 p. m.*

A large steam transport observed in fleet to-day.

MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE.

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FORT SUMTER, *July 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Three hundred and twenty-two shots (68 missed) fired at fort to-day; also 126 mortar shells (53 missed). This is the heaviest fire we have been subjected to since the bombardment commenced, though a good many of the shots were only from 30-pounder Parrotts. C. C. Bedell, signal corps, slightly wounded in head. Privates D. D. Heath, Company G, Thirty-second Georgia, and J. R. Gordan, Company A, same regiment, very slightly wounded. One negro slightly wounded.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 20, 1864.*

Seventy-one Parrott shots (19 missed), 175 mortar shells (53 missed) fired at fort. Private J. A. Todd, Gist Guard, wounded in head and leg, not dangerously. One negro killed; 2 severely wounded, 5 slightly wounded. Firing from Gregg at southwest angle with 8-inch Parrotts and with mortars from middle battery this morning.

J. C. MITCHEL,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 21, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : I reported my arrival yesterday evening by telegraph. I regret to say that on my arrival I found Capt. J. C. Mitchel, First South Carolina Artillery, was dead from the wound he had received during the day. Captain Phillips, Thirty-second Georgia, the temporary commander, turned over the fort to me, and, after as careful inspection as could be made at night, I found the fort not seriously damaged by the present bombardment. Capt. John Johnson, engineer in charge, is endeavoring to repair during the night whatever damage may be made during the day ; every effort will be made to effect this purpose. The fire from rifle guns has lately been directed upon the southwest angle with considerable effect, cutting away the exterior crest, and thus making a more easy ascent with the debris which falls. The loss of material at this point has required the abandonment of the most southerly casemate on the second tier of the western face, and if it continues will require a similar abandonment of the corresponding casemate in the lowest tier ; these casemates are being filled up, and the only real loss will be the loss of quarters. The enemy are using some incendiary shell upon this point, and I have been compelled to remove the ammunition from the southwest magazine for fear that some incendiary matter may be communicated by the ventilator, which cannot be filled up at present. The firing upon the gorge wall has been discontinued, and I hope that it will soon be repaired. The boom has been broken in two places near the southeast angle, and I would earnestly urge upon you the necessity of having it repaired at the earliest possible moment. Captain Johnson thinks it necessary that about a thousand bags of sand should be sent down every night whenever it can possibly be done, as if the present bombardment continues it will be required in large quantity. He desires it to be sent in bags, as it is easier handled. In the event of an attempt to assault the fort it will be important that the batteries on Sullivan's and James Islands be apprised as soon as possible, and therefore I desire to keep a signal officer on the parapet all night, so that he may be able to communicate the intelligence of the enemy's approach as soon as it is known to ourselves. I have only 2 signalmen here at present on duty and I cannot carry out my wishes in the above respect unless the number is increased. I would therefore respectfully request that the signal force be increased to 4. The garrison appears to be in good spirits.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 21, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Two hundred and thirty-six mortar shells (37 missed), 93 Parrott shells (11 missed) fired at fort to-day. No one hurt since last report.

HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *July 22, 1864—8 a. m.*

Eighteen Parrott shells fired at the fort, all of which struck; 29 mortar shells, 9 of which missed. No casualties; no damages. Quartermaster's boats did not come down last night; no reason why they should not.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 23, 1864—5 a. m.*

Fifty-six Parrott shells fired at the fort, of which 23 missed; 4 mortar shells, 2 missed. No casualties. Considerable progress made during the night in the repair of damages.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 23, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Enemy commenced an earth-work last night about 100 yards from Gregg and connected with it by a covered way, on which they have made considerable progress. The firing is from Gregg at southwest angle, one gun, and from middle battery at south angle, two guns, one of them the 10-inch Parrott.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *July 23, 1864.*

One hundred and eighty-eight shots from Parrott guns fired at fort to-day; 33 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 24, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: Forty-nine shots from Parrott guns fired at the fort during the night; 17 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 24, 1864—7 p. m.*

One hundred and twelve Parrott shots fired at the fort to-day, of which 18 missed. W. T. Miller, private Gist Guard Artillery, wounded, contusion of the chest, slight. No other casualty.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 25, 1864.*

Forty-nine shots fired at fort; 17 missed. Private W. M. Graw, Company F, Thirty-second Georgia, slightly wounded. Fired with 10-inch columbiad and 100-pounder from middle battery at south angle. Mortar shelling recommenced this morning. A party to be seen at work on new earth-work near Gregg. The fleet cannot be seen, owing to the haziness of the weather.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE.

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FORT SUMTER, *July 25, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Two hundred and sixty-four shells from guns fired at the fort to-day, of which 19 missed; 86 mortar shells, of which 33 missed. One negro slightly wounded; no other casualties. Fire directed upon gorge and southeast angle principally.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 26, 1864—5 a. m.*

Thirty-five Parrott shells fired at the fort, of which 15 missed; 58 mortar shells, of which 25 missed. John Hays, private, F Company, Thirty-second Georgia, slightly wounded in the forehead. Four negroes wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 26, 1864—7 p. m.*

Two hundred and sixty-one Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 23 missed; 69 mortar shells, of which 35 missed. Firing directed principally at the southeast angle. One negro slightly wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 27, 1864—5 a. m.*

(Received 10.45 a. m.)

Fifty-six Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, of which 24 missed; 54 mortar shells, of which 20 missed. One negro killed, 2 wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 27, 1864.*

It will require 40 men to make up the deficiency of the detachment that arrived last night, only 72 strong, and to relieve the men of Lucas's battalion. No damage done to fort last night. The water-boat was sunk at the wharf but has been repaired and will be sent up to-night.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 27, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

One hundred and ninety-nine shots fired at fort to-day, 16 missed; also 16 mortar shells, 6 missed. Firing has been almost entirely directed at southeast angle.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 28, 1864—4 a. m.*

(Received 4.20 a. m.)

Captain Johnson, engineer, has been severely, though not mortally, wounded in the head. I will send him up immediately in my boat. Have ambulance at Venning's Wharf. He recommended Lieutenant White to fill his place. An engineer must be down to-day.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

General RIPLEY.

FORT SUMTER, *July 28, 1864—5.30 a. m.*

Fifty-four shots fired at fort during night, 18 missed; 72 mortar shells, 22 missed. Private John Beasley, Company E, Thirty-second Georgia, killed; Capt. John Johnson, engineer in charge, wounded at 3.45 a. m. in the head, seriously, while inspecting the works.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 29, 1864.*

Thirty Parrott shots fired at fort last night, 13 missed ; 61 mortar shells, 30 missed. One of the 8-inch Parrotts at Gregg was missing yesterday, and the enemy are now mounting another in its place. No casualties.

HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 29, 1864—7 p. m.*

One hundred and seventy-seven shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 29 missed ; 66 mortar shells, of which 24 missed. Simeon Percy, private, Company F, First South Carolina Infantry, wounded in the head. Two negroes wounded. Firing more diversified. Two-hundred-pounder mounted and opened from Gregg.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 30, 1864—9.15 a. m.*  
(Received 11 a. m.)

Fifty-two Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, 31 missed ; 64 mortar shells, 22 missed. Two negroes wounded, 1 severely. Firing this morning from 10-inch Parrott at middle battery. Two 8-inch Parrotts at Gregg directed at sea face and center of gorge wall.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 30, 1864—7 p. m.*

One hundred and thirty-nine shots fired at fort to-day, 16 missed ; 62 mortar shells, 29 missed.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *July 31, 1864.*

Eighty mortar shells fired at fort last night, 23 missed. No casualties. Lieutenant White, of the engineer department, reported last night.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *July 31, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

One hundred and fifteen shots at fort to-day, 19 missed ; 67 mortar shells, 28 missed. Private Richard Bishop, Company F, First South Carolina Infantry, wounded, not dangerously.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 1, 1864.*

The whole number of shots fired at the fort in twenty-five days is 8,806, of which 6,976 took effect. The calibers of these shots are as follows : 10-inch, 8-inch, 6.4-inch, 4.2-inch rifled Parrotts ; 13-inch and 10-inch mortars, and 10-inch columbiads. The majority of projectiles was from Parrott guns. Repairs have been in proportion to damages, which may not be considered severe, when the number and kind of projectiles are considered.

Respectfully submitted.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

*Record of the number of shots fired at Fort Sumter from July 7 to July 31, 1864, inclusive.*

Date.	Day.	Night.	Missed.	Total.	Date.	Day.	Night.	Missed.	Total.
July 7.....	380	16	42	438	July 21.....	281	38	57	376
8.....	326	40	32	398	22.....	214	35	187	386
9.....	246	49	57	352	23.....	155	32	50	237
10.....	147	25	29	201	24.....	94	32	35	161
11.....	172	51	16	239	25.....	298	56	92	443
12.....	157	81	14	252	26.....	272	66	102	440
13.....	202	45	51	298	27.....	193	66	62	341
14.....	279	73	42	394	28.....	144	43	78	270
15.....	219	114	71	404	29.....	190	63	106	359
16.....	166	62	55	283	30.....	156	57	68	281
17.....	165	44	70	280	31.....	135	117	107	359
18.....	109	93	62	264					
19.....	327	174	193	694	Total.....	5,338	1,688	1,890	8,806
20.....	310	194	202	706					

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*August 5, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the Department. The conduct of the officers and men of the garrison during this, the heaviest bombardment to which the fort has been subjected, has been all that could be desired.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

ORDNANCE OFFICE,  
*August 13, 1864.*

Respectfully submitted, for the information of the Secretary of War.

By order:

JOHN BLAIR HOGE,  
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

AUGUST 16, 1864.

Respectfully submitted, as probably interesting to the President.

J. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

Read and returned to Secretary of War. The conduct of the garrison is praiseworthy.

J. D.

[AUGUST 1, 1864.]

Thirty-five Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, of which 20 missed ; 65 mortar shells, of which 20 missed. One negro wounded. Do urge the necessity for sending sand and timber for eastern crib.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK.

FORT SUMTER, *August 1, 1864—5.30 a. m.*

Ten Parrott shells fired at the fort during the night, of which 1 missed ; 167 mortar shells, of which 59 missed. Private Knight, G Company, First South Carolina Infantry, slightly wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*FORT SUMTER, *August 1, 1864—10.50 a. m.*

The 10-inch Parrott at middle battery is not to be seen this morning. Gratings are to be seen over the windows of the houses at Gregg and middle battery.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*FORT SUMTER, *August 2, 1864—8.15 p. m.*

One hundred and twenty-six shots fired at fort, 9 missed ; 45 mortar shells, 12 missed. Dr. McCauley slightly wounded, but still on duty. Negro killed.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 3, 1864—7.40 p. m.*

Seventy-four shots fired at fort to-day, 21 missed; 1 mortar shell, missed; damage very slight.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 3, 1864—6 a. m.*

Thirty-five Parrott shells fired at the fort during the night, of which 20 missed; 143 mortar shells, of which 118 missed. Two soldiers and 1 negro slightly wounded. Can I give our exchanged officers a salute as they pass the fort?

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE.

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FORT SUMTER, *August 8, 1864—7.20 p. m.*

Fifty-six Parrott shots fired at the fort to-day, of which 2 missed; 9 mortar shells, 3 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN.

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 9, 1864—7 p. m.*

Fifty-eight Parrott shots fired to-day. Private J. M. Head, Company H, Thirty-second Georgia, wounded in foot.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 10, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

One hundred and fifteen shots fired to-day, 2 missed; 57 mortar shells, 15 missed. No casualties. The negro force reduced considerably; more absolutely necessary.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 11, 1864—11 p. m.*

Eighty-nine shots fired at fort, 9 missed; 75 mortar shells, 20 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 12, 1864—9 a. m.*

Fifty-four Parrott shells fired at fort last night, 11 missed ; 65 mortar shells, 12 missed. Two negroes wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 12, 1864.*

Fifty-seven shots fired at fort to-day, 20 missed ; 42 mortar shells, 20 missed. One negro badly scorched by the evening gun.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 13, 1864.*

Forty-one Parrott shells fired at fort last night, 16 missed ; 39 mortar shells, 12 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 13, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

One hundred and fifty-six shots fired at fort to-day, 37 missed ; about 24 of these were 30-pounder shots from Swamp Angel, which opened about 11 a. m. Very few of them struck ; damage no more than usual.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 14, 1864—12 m.*

One hundred and fourteen mortar shells fired at fort last night, 19 missed ; 51 shells from Swamp Battery, 29 missed. Private Thomas Ellington, Company I, Thirty-second Georgia, wounded. Two negroes wounded ; 1 of them dangerously.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *August 14, 1864—7.35.*

Fifty-nine shots fired at fort to-day ; all struck ; 24 mortar shells, 10 missed.

HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *August 15, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Twenty-eight shots from Swamp Battery, 25 missed; 49 mortar shells, 13 missed. No casualties. Firing this morning slow.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 15, 1864.*

Forty shots fired at fort to-day, 2 missed; 42 mortar shells, 15 missed. Work going on at Swamp Battery and on the left of middle battery. Eight-inch at Gregg burst.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 16, 1864—11 a. m.*

Forty-two Parrott shells fired at the fort during the night, of which 22 struck; 58 mortar shells, of which 33 struck. Private Compton, F Company, First South Carolina Infantry, wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 18, 1864—7.20 p. m.*

Sixteen Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 11 missed; 56 mortar shells, of which 11 missed. Two hundred-pounder Parrott on the right of Wagner cannot be seen; suppose it has been brought to Gregg.

S. D. MOBLEY,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 20, 1864—11 a. m.*

Twenty-six Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, of which 14 hit; 51 mortar shells, of which 31 hit. Private Abernathy, Company H, Thirty-second Georgia, slightly wounded. Enemy working by details at Gregg.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 20, 1864.*

A side-wheel steamer has just towed a new monitor from the North inside the bar. Large working parties at Gregg; a few shots would be advisable.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK.

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FORT SUMTER, *August 20, 1864.*

Nine Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 8 missed; 51 mortar shells, of which 11 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 22, 1864—11.20 a. m.*

Thirty-four Parrott shells have been fired during the night, 9 of which missed; 42 mortar shells, 6 of which missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. E. M. SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 23, 1864—10.15 a. m.*

The enemy fired 20 Parrott shells last night, 14 of which missed; also 23 columbiad shells, 11 missed. One negro wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 23, 1864.*

Thirty-six Parrott shells have been fired at the fort to-day, 22 of which missed; also 61 columbiad shells, 5 of which missed. One negro wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 25, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

Five Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, of which 4 missed; 27 columbiad shells, of which 5 missed. Private D. W. Hay, First South Carolina Infantry, wounded severely; 3 negroes wounded. Enemy did not do any work last night on account of the firing. No damages can be noticed at Gregg or middle battery.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, &c., Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 25, 1864.*

Thirty columbiad shells fired at fort to-day, of which 28 hit; 19 Parrott shells, of which 3 hit. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 26, 1864—10 a. m.*

Thirty-five columbiad shells fired at the fort last night, of which 16 missed; 18 Parrott shells, of which 9 missed. Two negroes killed, and 2 negroes wounded. Special Orders, No. 3, May 26, 1864, is the order by which Shetty and Miller were detailed.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 27, 1864—9.26 a. m.*

Eight Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, of which 5 missed; 27 columbiad shells, of which 2 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. E. M. SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 27, 1864.*

You will please send me down pay and muster rolls enough for two companies. Eleven Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, all of which missed; 35 columbiads, of which 3 missed. No casualties.

HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 28, 1864—2.25 p. m.*

Eighteen Parrott shots were fired at the fort last night, of which 17 missed; 32 columbiads, of which 5 missed. One negro wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. E. M. SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *August 28, 1864—9.15 p. m.*

The enemy floated a torpedo down from direction of Johnson, which exploded near our wharf; no damage as far as ascertained yet. I think the enemy have our pass-word.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Brigadier-General RIPLEY.

[Indorsement.]

Captain Tucker has been asked to change the pass-word, and Colonel Rhett notified to caution his sentinels and pickets.

NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 29, 1864.*

Twenty-one Parrotts fired at the fort to-day, of which 15 missed; 40 columbiads, of which 9 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 30, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

Ten Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, none of which struck; 29 columbiads, of which 7 missed. Two negroes killed.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 30, 1864.*

Twenty Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 10 missed; 38 columbiads, of which 9 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE.

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FORT SUMTER, *August 31, 1864.*

Four Parrott shells fired at the fort last night, of which 3 missed; 31 columbiads, none of which missed; 1 mortar, which missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *August 31, 1864—7.10 p. m.*

Fourteen Parrott shots fired at the fort to-day, of which 7 missed; 27 mortar, of which 8 missed. One negro wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



FORT SUMTER, *September 1, 1864—4 a. m.*

The enemy again attempted to blow up the fort with a torpedo, but failed. The torpedo exploded about 300 yards off the east angle.

HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *September 1, 1864.*

Four shots from guns fired at fort last night, 2 missed; 25 mortar shells, 9 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE.

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FORT SUMTER, *September 1, 1864.*

Thirty Parrott shells fired at fort to-day, 12 missed; 16 mortar shells, 8 missed.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *September 2, 1864—9 a. m.*

Thirty-three Parrott shells fired at fort last night, 11 missed. No casualties. Working party at Gregg.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *September 2, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Forty Parrott shells fired at fort to-day, 15 missed.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 3, 1864—9 a. m.*

Thirty-one Parrott shells fired at fort last night, 10 missed. One negro killed. Firing slow this morning.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *September 4, 1864—1.50 p. m.*

Thirty-five Parrott shells fired at fort last night, 5 missed. The whole detachment of Thirty-second Georgia was relieved last night by 5 officers, 190 men, under Captain Phillips; 120 negroes also arrived and relieved those here. Please send me down to-night some blanks for company morning reports and some for tri-monthly return.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *September 7, 1864—1 p. m.*

Twenty-eight Parrott shells fired at fort last night, 7 missed. No casualties. Working party at Gregg and at palisades between middle battery and Wagner.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 8, 1864—10.15 a. m.*

Twenty-eight Parrott shells fired at fort, 8 missed. No casualties. Working party on left of Gregg.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 8, 1864—6.50.*

The stockade noticed between Wagner and middle battery appears to be a four-sided prison having 4 sentinels on each face. The sentinels can be distinctly seen. Twenty-five Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 8 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 11, 1864.*

One hundred and forty Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 28 missed. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *September 12, 1864.*

All quiet here this morning. Large working party at Gregg. There have been five monitors in the fleet for several days.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 13, 1864—11 a. m.*

All quiet here this morning.

HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 13, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

Enemy very busy with large working party, wagons, &c., at Gregg.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain NANCE.

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 16, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

Thirty-seven shots fired at the fort, of which 7 missed; 29 Parrott shells struck the fort 1 mortar hit. Private J. C. Ray, Company I, Second Georgia, wounded severely in leg. Two negroes killed and 3 wounded.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 17, 1864.*

Enemy keeps up a brisk fire with small-arms in answer to ours. Eight men of First South Carolina Infantry reported last night. Can I go to Mount Pleasant to-morrow?

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 17, 1864—6.40 p. m.*

The Yankees have done no work to-day at Gregg because of our sharpshooters. Forty-four shots fired to-day at fort (18 missed), mostly from small-rifle guns. No casualties.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT SUMTER, *September 19, 1864—12.45 p. m.*

Fifteen shots from Swamp Angel last night ; all missed. Enemy have thrown up covered way connecting Gregg with the sand hills:

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 20, 1864.*

Thirteen shots from Swamp Angel since last report ; 1 struck flat at the wharf, but did not sink her. There is a new stockade being put up on the left of Gregg.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *September 21, 1864—7 p. m.*

Seventy shots have been fired at fort in last twenty-four hours ; 55 hit. No casualties since last report.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

FORT SUMTER, *September 22, 1864.*

Fifteen Parrott shells fired at the fort to-day, of which 9 missed. No casualties. A rifled gun mounted in Gregg bearing upon us ; I think 200-pounder.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Captain SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FORT SUMTER, *September 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

The enemy have mounted another 200-pounder in Gregg bearing upon Sumter. All quiet this morning.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. E. M. SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 37.

*Reports of Capt. John Johnson, C. S. Engineers, of operations July 19-26.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 20, 1864—7 p. m.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report on events and operations in my department during the 19th and 20th instant :

*Tuesday, July 19.*—Unusually heavy mortar and small Parrott shelling ; heavy Parrotts as usual opened on the southwest angle ; a



few during the day fired at the south angle and the north wall. A mortar shell (13-inch) struck immediately over the sally-port casemate arch near the northwest angle. The effect was visibly to jar the arch; the filling over it is 7 feet. I have begun a centering for the arch and shall, besides, add to filling. This and the adjacent arches bear evidence of much wear and tear, being cracked in various directions by previous bombardments. Day fire: Parrott, 322, of which 68 missed; mortar, 126, of which 53 missed. Night fire: Parrott, 71, of which 19 missed; mortar, 175, of which 55 missed. Total, 694, of which 195 missed. It will thus be seen that the firing of these twenty-four hours has been the heaviest yet. The night fire was particularly annoying to the working parties, and diminished the amount of repair I had hoped to effect. The casualties for the same period of twenty-four hours were as follows: Mr. Bedell, of signal corps, slightly wounded while signaling on the western berm; 2 enlisted men slightly wounded; 1 negro killed and 2 severely wounded; 5 negroes slightly wounded; total, 1 killed and 10 wounded.

*Wednesday, 20th.*—The firing began as usual at an early hour, upon the southwest angle, from the two 8-inch Parrotts at Battery Gregg, and has been particularly destructive, carrying away large masses of brick from scarp and sand from slope of angle just over the stone re-enforced buttress. This still remains in large part unhurt, but the fire has begun to take effect upon the mass above it, and about noon to-day obliged us to fill rapidly the small gallery leading to window in old shell-room at the south end of second tier, west quarters. The gallery was filled before penetration occurred, and to-night I shall complete a more extensive and substantial filling, retained with heavy timber revetting, and this I expect will resist for a long time. The west end of the heavy parapet over stairway has been shot away, and the adjacent howitzer platform I fear lost to us. I expect hereafter the piece will have to be fired from the top of the parapet, and consequently more withdrawn from the line of a raking fire along the gorge slope. There has been no firing of consequence to-day upon any other part of the fort. The mortar shelling has made some holes but no damage, the shells chiefly bursting over the west berm and wharf. The boom requires immediate repair and will, I hope, now have it. The transportation in small boats, some of which are occasionally struck and sunk at the wharf, is entirely inadequate to the wants of the fort in sand and general material. A regular supply of at least 1,000 bags every night is considered to be very necessary under such a severe bombardment. I am also in want of lumber, which was to have been brought down last night. It becomes my sad duty to record the death to-day of the commanding officer, Capt. John C. Mitchel, an accomplished officer and high-toned gentleman. He had gone up to the lookout sentinel on the rampart at southwest angle and was observing the effect of the firing, when he was struck and mortally wounded by a fragment of mortar shell hitting him below the left hip and causing his death at 5 p. m., being four hours from the time he was wounded. Day firing: Parrott, 161 (24 missed); mortar, 274 (101 missed); total, 435 (125 missed).

JNO. JOHNSON,

*Captain, Engineer in Charge.*

Maj. W. H. ECHOLS,

*Chief Engineer, South Carolina.*

FORT SUMTER, *July 23, 1864—8 p. m.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report progress of bombardment and operations in engineer department from the evening of 20th instant to the present:

Capt. T. A. Huguenin, First South Carolina Infantry, assumed command on arriving at the fort, 8 p. m., 20th instant. At his request I accompanied him over the work and indicated the plans of defense. Two of the quartermaster's barges were sunk at the wharf by fragments of mortar shells. Night firing: Parrott, 61, of which 18 missed; mortar, 210, of which 59 missed; total, 271, of which 77 missed. Working parties engaged on repairs of south and southwest angles; they also completed the filling within heavy revetment at the south end of second tier west casemates. No casualties.

*Thursday, July 21 (fifteenth day).*—Parrott fire slackened to-day on southwest angle; 1 negro killed about 8 a. m. Day fire: Parrott, 93, of which 11 missed; mortar, 236, of which 37 missed; total, 329, of which 48 missed. Shelling light during the night, the hands being able to work to some advantage. No casualties. Night fire: Parrott, 18, of which none missed; mortar, 29, of which 9 missed; total, 47, of which 9 missed.

*Friday, 22d (sixteenth day).*—Fire opened as usual upon southwest angle. The old crack from top to bottom of scarp-wall at embrasure next north of position in southwest angle has been plainly increased by the late battering in reverse; also the pier arch, between the two lower tier casemates in same angle, used now for commissary stores, has begun to crack in consequence of the outward thrust upon the scarp-wall. This pier arch is well centered, but the rapid growth of the cracks, one along the crown and extending upward and transversely into the casemate arch of either side, as well as another at the skew-back of the outer pier, indicate plainly the progress of demolition without and the necessity of speedily filling these chambers. Moreover, should the battering of this angle be long kept up, the filling of these lower casemates will not arrest a probable falling outwardly of the scarp-wall on both sides of the postern, which may lead to a disastrous loss of material from top to bottom of the present towering southwest angle. I do not give this up, by any means, but if the existing deficiencies in supply of sand and lumber by quartermaster's department are suffered to continue I do not think I can be answerable for this any more than the weak points in the sea front. I shall endeavor to build a small section of crib-work, reaching from the stone buttress around and across the postern to the embrasure of the telegraph casemate; thus, if not bracing, at least ready to catch and sustain the cracked scarp. It will be necessary to raise the crib at least 10 feet above the berm to make it effective toward the end in view, and also to close the postern permanently, but this last, since the opening of the sally-port at the wharf, is not at all necessary to either the comfort or safety of the garrison; indeed, it would be one less opening to guard. The mortar shelling has done no injury to the fort, although requiring diligent repairs and filling of holes. The battering and shelling of the southwest and southeast angles has largely reduced the material bulk of the same, but repairs have in the case of the former so far arrested anything like breaching, and of the latter have kept up the command and infantry cover, while the gradual filling of the magazines below will effectually add to the strength of this almost indestructible angle. Day fire: Parrott,

152, of which 16 missed ; mortar, 174, of which 96 missed ; total, 326, of which 112 missed. Night fire: Parrott, 56, of which 23 missed ; mortar, 4, of which 2 missed ; total, 60, of which 25 missed. Received 18 more slaves to-night. The total working force is now 160 strong. Lieutenant Izard and Mr. Mathewes, of engineer department, reported for duty to-night. No casualties.

*Saturday, 23d (seventeenth day).*—A small sand battery has been erected in front of the frame building to the enemy's right and rear of Battery Gregg. It is suspected of mounting 30-pounder Parrotts. Fire to-day resumed upon the southwest and southeast angles. Day fire: Parrott, 188, of which 33 missed ; mortar, none. No casualties. Began filling com[missary] casemate.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. JOHNSON,

*Captain, Engineer in Charge.*

Maj. W. H. ECHOLS,  
*Chief Engineer, South Carolina.*

—  
FORT SUMTER, *July 26, 1864—8 p. m.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report for the nights of 23d, 24th, 25th, and day of 26th instant:

Night fire: Parrott (30-pounder), 49, of which 17 missed. No casualties. Working force engaged all night on southwest and southeast angles. A small invoice of sand received.

*Sunday, July 24 (eighteenth day).*—Garrison details put to work filling lower casemate in southwest angle next to magazine. The arch and crest of wall over Major Blanding's former quarters in right center of gorge were brought down without any harm by a chance Parrott shell this forenoon. The masses fell on heavy log-covered roof of block-house used for negro quarters, and add to its security. The crest at this point still remains some 25 feet above parade. Day fire: Parrott, 112, of which 18 missed. One enlisted man wounded. Night fire: Parrott, 53, of which 16 missed. The enemy seemed to have run out of mortar shells. The invoice of materials received by barges at night was very fair, but might have been much better had the steam-boat approached the wharf, as she could have done without risk to-night. The working force was engaged on repairs of southeast angle and north wall, also filling the southeast magazines. The garrison details to-day continued filling commissary casemate.

*Monday, July 25 (nineteenth day).*—Mortars recommenced, also two 10-inch columbiads ; firing from middle battery upon the southeast angle with a 100-pounder Parrott. The effect of these last upon the angle to-day showed itself in a splintering and slight dislocation of the timber ceiling of the most easterly of the two magazines. The ceiling would probably have yielded and let down the whole mass above but for the heavy shoring truss I had put under it last winter. Some additional studs and braces were placed before daylight, and the filling continued. The garrison detail works now in two reliefs, three hours each, 40 men at a time, usually from 12 to 3 and from 3 to 6 p. m. The negroes work from 7 p. m. to 5 a. m. Since the fire has been slackened on the southwest angle there has been no more work done on exterior slope of the same, but the



filling of commissary casemate is continued regularly every day by the garrison detail. A very good supply of materials by barges. Day firing: Parrott, 264, in which 19 missed; mortar, 86, in which 33 missed. Night firing: Parrott, 35, in which 15 missed; mortar, 58, in which 25 missed. Total, 443, in which 92 missed. One enlisted man and 5 negroes wounded.

*Tuesday, July 26 (twentieth day).*—Heavy firing to-day upon the southeast angle, with sometimes the 300-pounder Parrott. The parapet entirely carried away, and position of howitzer quite plowed up. I hope to restore the latter to-night, but for a parapet, as long as the bombardment continues, we shall now have to depend on heavy blocks and sand-bags, placed after dark and taken in before day. For five successive days they have swept away by noon the work it took all the previous night to reconstruct. The heavy fire to-day also told on the little second tier (bomb-proof), formed by blindage logs inside of mess-rooms. The wall was penetrated near the upper end of logs, and through a breach not visible to enemy the sand had been running so as to nearly fill up the empty quarters. I shall do nothing but let the debris fill up the cavity, which is only of triangular section, about 8 feet height and base and 20 feet length. The ceiling of south magazines stood the fire to-day without any more signs of straining. Day firing: Parrott, 261, of which 23 missed; mortar, 96, of which 35 missed; total, 330, of which 58 missed.

The enemy's small new battery, on his right of Battery Gregg, has been connected with it by a covered way. Except one 30-pounder, which fired from it three days ago, there have been no developments of its armament. Lieutenant Izard, after remaining two days, returned to the city on sick leave. Mr. Mathewes is supplying his place. Mr. Devereux, one of my superintendents, is sick and gone to hospital in city. The carpenters have begun the crib-work on exterior of southwest angle, and have revetted solidly the commissary casemate in same vicinity.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. JOHNSON,

*Captain, Engineer in Charge.*

Maj. W. H. ECHOLS,  
*Chief Engineer, South Carolina.*

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No. 38.

*Reports of Col. Alfred Rhett, First South Carolina Artillery, commanding Fifth Military District, &c., of operations June 2–September 20.*

[For number of shots fired at the city of Charleston by the batteries on Morris Island from November 16, 1863, to March 4, 1864, see Vol. XXVIII, Part I, p. 686.]

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HEADQUARTERS,

*Sullivan's Island, June 10, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of any importance occurred in this command during the past ten days, with the



exception of a desultory fire from the enemy's batteries on Morris Island, to which we replied with 12 mortar shells from Battery Rutledge. The enemy's fire was as follows :

*June 2.*—Nine shots were fired at Fort Moultrie.

*June 3.*—Sixteen mortar shells were fired at Fort Moultrie.

*June 6.*—Nineteen mortar shells, 10 Parrott, three 10-inch columbiad were fired at Sullivan's Island.

*June 8.*—One Parrott shell fired at Fort Moultrie.

*June 9.*—Six 10-inch columbiad shells fired at Fort Moultrie.

On the 7th the steamer Fox safely entered the harbor.

On the 6th the Ironsides sailed north. Three 32-pounder rifle shots were fired from Moultrie, and one 8-inch rifle bolt and 1 canister from Battery Beauregard for practice, during the past ten days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. WILLIAM F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,  
*Sullivan's Island, June 20, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to submit report of current events for the past ten days :

*June 10.*—The engineer boat was stolen by 2 men from Company C and 2 men from Company D, and with it deserted to the enemy.

*June 13.*—Fifteen monitor shots at Fort Moultrie and several at Batteries Rutledge and Beauregard.

*June 15.*—Seven shots at Fort Moultrie.

*June 16.*—Six shots at Fort Moultrie. Two rounds were fired from all the guns and mortars in this command.

*June 17.*—Twenty shots were fired at Fort Moultrie, five 10-pounder Parrott shells from deck of monitor at these headquarters. At about 9 p. m. a shot was fired from a monitor on picket; almost simultaneously 2 rockets were thrown up from same monitor, which was answered by 1 from Battery Wagner. Three blue lights were also observed from monitor, and shortly after a gun or guns were heard in a northeasterly direction; several colored lights were displayed. Lieut. Iredell Jones, First South Carolina Artillery, with 22 men, thoroughly scouted Long Island and reported all quiet.

*June 18.*—A steam tug approaching the monitor on picket was fired at from Fort Moultrie (5 shots), when she retired.

*June 19.*—One 12-pounder English rifled and banded gun arrived and sent to Battery Marshall. Two 10-inch columbiads have been dismounted at Battery Marion and removed to another position for remounting. One 7-inch Brooke gun has been mounted at Battery Marion. Brooke gun platform has been relaid.

Work done in last ten days: Platform relaid in vacant chamber, Battery Marion; merlon erected to shield gun in Marion from fire of Morris Island batteries; sodding crémaillère line at Battery Marshall. Force of negroes employed in past ten days about 53 per day; all negroes discharged except 5 on June 18; laid out about 200 yards

of palisade work in front of Fort Moultrie and Battery Rutledge; took up mortar platform on Battery Rutledge; built two well curbs for wells in chamber intended for 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch Blakely gun.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Sullivan's Island, July 20, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward diary of events during the last ten days:

*July 12.*—Steamer Fox went aground on Drunken Dick Shoal, but floated off and returned to the city at 1.40 a. m.

*July 14.*—Companies B and D, First South Carolina Artillery, returned from James Island.

*July 15.*—Three shots fired at Sullivan's Island; 54 mortar shells were fired from here at Morris Island.

*July 16.*—At 6 a. m. our batteries opened a heavy fire from mortars and columbiads on Morris Island, almost completely silencing their fire; 35 shots fired at Sullivan's Island.

*July 16.*—Twenty-five columbiad shells and 71 mortar shells fired at Morris Island.

*July 17.*—One hundred and fifty-eight mortar shells fired at Morris Island.

*July 19.*—Three shells fired at Sullivan's Island.

On 16th and 19th July two cabins were erected on Morris Island.

Accompanying, engineer's report.\*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST SUB-DISTRICT,  
*Sullivan's Island, S. C., July 31, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward the following report of events for the past ten days:

*July 20.*—One shot fired from Beauregard Battery at steam-tug plying in that vicinity.

*July 21.*—Three shots fired from Beauregard Battery at a steam-tug.

*July 22.*—Three shots fired from Battery Rutledge at monitor on picket in front of that battery. Four shots fired from Batteries Bee and Marion at monitor. Steamer Fox passed out at 11.40 p. m. Two shots fired from Fort Moultrie at monitor.

*July 24.*—Steamer attempted to run the blockade but was driven off at 11.40 p. m.

*July 25.*—Steamers Druid and Prince Albert went out at 9.45 p. m.

\* Not found.

*July 26.*—Four shots fired at Moultrie from Morris Island. Company G, First South Carolina Infantry, 73 men and 3 officers, went from Moultrie to Sumter at 9 p. m. Gist Guard, Lieutenant Boag commanding, assigned to duty in place of Company G. Sullivan's Island opened slowly with mortars from Batteries Bee and Marion, throwing 31 shells; the enemy replied, firing 4 shots.

*July 28.*—Four shots fired at the island. Small steamer came within 3,000 yards of Battery Marshall and lowered small boat to take soundings, apparently. Before a gun could be trailed she left. Much communication between Folly Inlet and fleet. One officer and 40 men of Company F, First South Carolina Infantry, went to Sumter.

*July 29.*—About 10.30 a gun appeared above the parapet at Battery Gregg. Sullivan's Island opened briskly upon it and it was at once removed. The fire was kept up all day from columbiads and mortars, and during the night up to 1 a. m. with mortars. Eleven shots were fired at Battery Bee; 287 shots were fired from the island.

*July 31.*—The engineer has been employed throwing up and sodding covered way between Beauregard and Battery Rutledge, repairing mortar platforms in Battery Marion, and one columbiad platform in Battery Rutledge. Lieutenant White relieved and gone to Sumter on 30th.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant (in the absence of Col. Alfred Rhett),

IREDELL JONES,  
*Acting Aide-de-Camp.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. FIRST SUB-DISTRICT, FIRST MIL. DIST.,  
*Sullivan's Island, August 20, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of events for the past ten days:

*August 10.*—Thirty-nine shells fired at Morris Island from Sullivan's Island; 1 shell thrown at Battery Marion from Morris Island at 3.30 a. m.

*August 11.*—One shot fired at Prince Albert wreck 11.30 a. m. Enemy kept up slow fire during day.

*August 12.*—Enemy fired 44 shots at Sullivan's Island; 33 shots fired at the enemy from Sullivan's Island.

*August 13.*—Enemy fired 5 shots at Sullivan's Island; 12 shots fired at enemy's tug-boat. One steamer ran the blockade and came in the harbor at 1.30 a. m.

*August 14.*—Twenty shots fired at Sullivan's Island from Morris Island.

*August 15.*—One 10-inch columbiad arrived at 1 a. m. to-day and was landed. Flag-of-truce boat was communicated with off Battery Marshall, bearing communications from Commodore Dahlgren to General Jones.

*August 16.*—Two shots fired from Morris Island at Sullivan's Island. The 10-inch columbiad that arrived on the 15th mounted.

*August 17.*—Ninety-five shots fired at Sullivan's Island by the enemy; 95 shots fired at Morris Island from Sullivan's Island; 10



shots were fired from rifled mortar, out of which 5 burst well. Sergt. E. P. Williams, of First South Carolina Infantry, severely wounded last night at 9 p. m., and 1 ambulance horse was so severely injured as to render killing him necessary. Twenty-six shots were fired from the 12-pounder rifled, 8 of which failed to take the groove, and 6 burst in the muzzle. Three 6-pounder iron field guns arrived.

*August 18.*—Three shots fired at Sullivan's Island.

*August 19.*—Twelve shots fired by enemy from Morris Island at Fort Moultrie. The injured 10-inch columbiad has been shipped.

*Engineer work.*—The force on the island have finished the battery at west end of cove, all except sodding it, which is now being done; also, that the battery for Blakely gun is in course of construction and well under way. They have also finished relaying the mortar platforms and nearly completed the sodding of inclosure to Battery Beauregard and covered way between the latter and Battery Rutledge; platforms along covered way completed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST SUB-DISTRICT,  
*Sullivan's Island, August 30, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of events during the last ten days:

*August 20.*—Fourteen shells fired at this island. About 8.30 p. m. small-arms were fired from Fort Sumter, also from picket-boat between Gregg and Fort Sumter. The triple-banded Brooke gun was dismounted, and with its carriage and chassis removed from the chamber.

*August 21.*—Lieutenant De Saussure, with detachment of Company I, First South Carolina Artillery, left for Battery Ramsay.

*August 22.*—Seven shots were fired at this island.

*August 23.*—Forty-six shots fired at this island. Steamer Fox went to sea.

*August 24.*—One hundred and twenty shots fired at this island. Steamers Druid and Syren went to sea. A gale passed over Battery Marshall, blowing down company quarters and lookout; 1 man, Company B, First South Carolina Infantry, killed, and 3 slightly wounded. Steamer General Whiting grounded in front of Fort Moultrie, but succeeded in getting off in a short time, returning to the city. One hundred and fifty-five shots were fired at Morris Island.

*August 25.*—Ten shots fired at this island. Heavy salute fired from fleet at sunrise and sunset. Sergeant Anderson, Company C, First Artillery, killed by a shell. The carriage and chassis of the triple-banded Brooke gun arrived.

*August 26.*—One shot fired at the island.

*August 27.*—Sixty-five shots fired at this island; 21 shells fired at Morris Island from 12-pounder rifle; 2 shells missed the grooves; 20 mortar shells fired from this island.



*August 28.*—Twenty-two shots fired at this island. At about 9 p. m. a rocket was thrown up from main, opposite Battery Marshall.

*August 29.*—Twelve shots fired from 12-pounder rifled. One mule (Government) killed. At 8.15 p. m. musketry firing was heard on the southeast angle of Fort Sumter, followed shortly afterward by heavy explosion between that place and Battery Bee, supposed to be that of a torpedo. Fort Sumter signaled "attention to signals." Ten shots fired at this island; 24 shots fired at Morris Island.

*August 30.*—Three bales cotton found on the beach by some men of Company I, First South Carolina Artillery. Seventy-four shots fired at Sullivan's Island; 57 shots fired from Sullivan's Island. Flag-of-truce boat went out from Sullivan's Island at 6 and returned at 8.30 p. m.; 3 shots were fired at her from Morris Island batteries; a fragment of shell struck the boat, but did no damage. A steamer run in and went up to the city at 1.15 a. m.

*August 31.*—Three shots fired at Sullivan's Island from Morris Island; 2 shots fired from Sullivan's Island at Morris Island. Steamer attempting to run in got aground and sunk 4 miles from Battery Marshall.

Engineer department has completed the battery for triple-banded Brooke gun and removed 1 mortar from one part of Battery Rutledge to the extreme right of same battery. They have also been assisting in cutting sods and sodding, and commenced a traverse and magazine in half bastion of Beauregard Battery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST SUB-DISTRICT,  
*Sullivan's Island, September 10, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward the following report of events for the past ten days:

*September 1.*—The enemy signaled from nearest monitor all night with rockets and lights. Two shots were fired from the fleet.

*September 2.*—A steamer ran safely in at 1 a. m. Triple-banded Brooke gun mounted in first subdivision.

*September 3.*—At 10.30 a. m. a steamer went down the harbor with a flag of truce, and was met by one from the fleet, and returned to the city at 1.30 p. m. At 8.30 p. m. the steamer General Whiting went out. Failing to show any signal, she was fired into by the picket on the beach, when she displayed the proper lights. She is supposed to have been discovered by a barge lying about 1,000 yards in front of Battery Rutledge, as the barge fired 2 volleys of musketry and threw up rockets as she was passing. A steamer ran the blockade at 12.30 a. m.

*September 4.*—Three men of Company H, First South Carolina Artillery, deserted; supposed to have gone to Rabun County, Ga.

*September 5.*—A drummer boy of First South Carolina Infantry accidentally drowned. The steamer Druid run in and anchored off Battery Rutledge for some time, waiting for a light to be placed on the grillage in front of Fort Moultrie previous to passing in. She

was soon discovered by a barge lying off Battery Rutledge, which by firing musketry and signaling soon directed the enemy to her position. The batteries opened fire upon her, firing 39 shots at her. She passed in safety at 12.30 a. m.

*September 6.*—The enemy fired 15 shots at Moultrie and 2 at Battery Bee. At 12 m. the picket monitor showed signals and threw up 4 rockets.

*September 7.*—Rockets were thrown up and signal lights displayed by the fleet during the entire night. Six shots were fired from Battery Marshall in practice. About 600 prisoners marched in stockade between Wagner and middle battery.

*September 8.*—The enemy fired 10 shots at the island. At 8 p. m. the right 7-inch Brooke gun in first subdivision was dismounted with its carriage preparatory to being mounted again on the carriage taken from the columbiad. A few rounds of musketry were fired from barges off Morris Island at 9.30 p. m.

*September 9.*—The steamers Syren and Fox passed out at 1 a. m.; the Syren passed out safe, the Fox discovered. One hundred and twenty-seven shots fired at Sullivan's Island, and 51 shots fired from Sullivan's Island. Ten-inch gun will be mounted to-night. Another monitor came in to-day. There are inside the bar 5 monitors, 6 steamers, 3 transports, 3 schooners, and 4 three-masted vessels; outside, 5 gun-boats.

*Engineer work.*—The engineer force has been engaged in completing magazine and traverse at Beauregard Battery. Battery for triple-banded gun completed; they have also been working on bomb-proof at Battery Marshall and the West Point Battery at cove; they have also been cutting timber to complete obstructions in front of batteries.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

About 4 p. m., 40 sailors were seen going to Gregg.

ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST SUB-DISTRICT,  
*Sullivan's Island, September 20, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward the following report for the last ten days:

*September 10.*—Six shots fired at Moultrie. At 4 a. m., 8 or 10 musket shots were fired near the buoy, 1,300 yards from Fort Sumter. The 10-inch columbiad and Brooke gun were both mounted last night in the first subdivision. Two shots were fired at a tug-boat at 12 p. m. A gun-boat fired on Battery Marshall one hour—fired in all 75 shots. The fire was returned with 15 shots.

*September 11.*—Battery Marshall fired 16 shots in practice this morning. Much signaling and a rocket from monitor during the night.

*September 12.*—Eight shots were fired at Sullivan's Island. At 7.15 p. m. signal lights were displayed from picket monitor. Lieut. T. M. S. Rhett was painfully wounded by a fragment of shell.

*September 13.*—Three shots were fired at Sullivan's Island. At daylight 2 shots were fired at picket monitor, which ran in nearer than usual.

*September 14.*—Fifteen shots were fired at Fort Moultrie. At 5 a. m. six gun-boats opened fire upon Battery Marshall. The latter returned the fire vigorously until 6.15 a. m. Three shots were fired from second subdivision at a tug-boat. The 8-inch gun at Battery Marion was dismounted and taken to the cove.

*September 15.*—A large number of signal lights and rockets displayed by fleet.

*September 16.*—One shot fired from Battery Rutledge at tug-boat; 43 shots fired at Morris Island to annoy working parties.

*September 17.*—Two blockaders came much nearer than usual last night, lying very near the buoy that marks southern bank of Maffitt's Channel.

*September 18.*—The 8-inch gun was mounted in first subdivision.

*September 19.*—Considerable firing reported in the direction of Stono at 7 a. m. A few musket shots were fired near Battery Gregg at 8.30 p. m. Eight-inch gun supplied with ammunition sufficient.

*Engineer work.*—The force for the last ten days has been employed principally at Battery Marshall on bomb-proofs and in throwing forward the battery of 12-pounders; also in repairing the two-gun battery, No. 4, and other works; in sodding Beauregard, Marion, and battery at cove. A traverse has also been thrown up to protect guard at bridge, and getting out stuff for obstructions in front of works. There are now 190 laborers, besides carters and a few others, to keep the camp in order and carry on the business in the department on this island.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

IREDELL JONES,

A. A. D. C. (for and in absence of Col. Alfred Rhett).

Capt. W. F. NANCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

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No. 39.

*Report of Col. George P. Harrison, jr., Thirty-second Georgia Infantry, commanding brigade, of action at Burden's Causeway, John's Island.*

HEADQUARTERS ADVANCED FORCES,  
*John's Island, S. C., July 10, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the assault upon the enemy's works on the morning of the 9th instant:

Having been ordered by Brigadier-General Robertson to assault the enemy in his intrenchments at daylight with my brigade, consisting of the Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Bacon commanding; the Forty-seventh Georgia Regiment, Colonel Edwards commanding, and Bonaud's battalion, Major Bonaud com-



manding, I moved it forward at 2 a. m. about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles from its bivouac of the night before, and formed line of battle immediately in front of a hedge held by our troops, and about 700 or 800 yards from the enemy's works across an open field. Having thrown forward a line of skirmishers covering my entire front, at the dawn of day I ordered the whole line to advance to the assault, the Thirty-second Georgia being on the right, the Forty-seventh on the left, and Bonaud's battalion in the center, the Thirty-second and Bonaud's being separated by a hedge road running perpendicularly to our line and toward the works of the enemy.

Having advanced about 350 yards, my skirmishers came upon the pickets of the enemy, who fired upon us and hastily retreated. With a loud cheer from the whole line my skirmishers dashed off in pursuit, closely followed by the main body. A rapid fire was at once opened upon us by the enemy behind his works, and as we moved onward it became more accurate and deadly until within about 250 yards of their intrenchments, when it became plainly visible that the enemy were in strong force and ready for us. Volley after volley, linked as it were by scattering reports, were poured into our advancing ranks, and musket-balls swept the field in reckless profusion, mowing down many of our brave and gallant men; but my line pressed steadily on, never at any time showing the least sign of wavering. Our advance was bloodily contested along the whole line until within a few paces of the enemy's works, and in some places till our men mounted the parapet, when he gave way, leaving his works in our possession. Our loss would have been much greater up to this time but for the dense smoke from the enemy's fire, which from the peculiar state of the atmosphere did not rise, but hid us from the sight of the foe. It was so thick that in places a man could not be seen five paces.

Feeling satisfied that the enemy was much stronger in numbers than ourselves, and having been informed of the strength of the ground immediately in our front, I halted my line upon the captured works and opened a rapid fire upon the retreating foe, with considerable effect, the exact amount of which it is difficult to estimate, as the enemy carried off his wounded with him, and probably a portion of his dead, the dense woods affording him this facility with little risk. Having gained the entire front line of the enemy's works, and Major Jenkins having come to my assistance with the First Georgia Regulars, a detachment of Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, and a portion of the Fourth Georgia Cavalry (dismounted), which had been held in reserve, I immediately threw forward two companies of Thirty-second Georgia, under Major Holland, of same regiment, and three companies of Forty-seventh Georgia and Bonaud's battalion together, under Major Cone, of Forty-seventh Georgia, with instructions to press the enemy closely and discover his next position, which was found to be behind another line of works just beyond a creek, passable for artillery only by a narrow bridge, which the enemy tore up as he fell back.

About this time I received instructions from Brigadier-General Robertson not to assault the enemy further, but to hold the ground already taken. This I did, keeping my skirmishers well up to the enemy and exchanging a rapid fire with him during the morning and at intervals during the afternoon. Toward evening the firing ceased, and under the cover of night the enemy withdrew from our



front and fell back to his gun-boats, leaving considerable quartermaster, commissary, and ordnance stores in our possession.

My whole brigade displayed great coolness and bravery, and too much cannot be said in commendation of both officers and men.

Inclosed find list of casualties.\*

Very respectfully,

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,

*Colonel Thirty-second Georgia Infy. Regt., Comdg., &c.*

Capt. T. HENRY JOHNSTON,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 40.

*Reports of Col. John L. Black, First South Carolina Cavalry, of attack on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins and operations September 10-18.*

ROYALL'S, July 10, 1864.

The enemy are attacking Haskell.

J. L. BLACK,

*Colonel, Commanding.*

Major STRINGFELLOW.

ROYALL'S, July 10, 1864—9.30 p. m.

The enemy have been repulsed and Fort Johnson re-enforced. The report of Haskell being attacked was a mistake. It was Simkins.

J. L. BLACK,

*Colonel, Commanding.*

Major STRINGFELLOW.

ROYALL'S HOUSE, September 10, 1864.

No change in enemy's fleet since last report. Off Cole's Island, 1 gun-boat, 1 transport, and 8 schooners; in Folly River, 1 schooner; in Light-House Inlet, 3 transports. The monitor that lay off southern end of Morris Island yesterday cannot be seen this morning. Twenty-eight mortar and 24 columbiad shells were fired at Schooner Creek battery from Fort Johnson; effect not known. Enemy fired 45 rifle shells and 6 mortar shells at Simkins and Fort Johnson, doing no damage.

J. L. BLACK,

*Colonel, Commanding.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

ROYALL'S, September 11, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Reports from observatories this morning and the firing of yesterday is as follows, viz: Five monitors, 8 steamers, 7 sailing vessels,

and 9 blockaders off Morris Island; 1 transport in Light-House Inlet; 2 gun-boats, 1 transport, and 5 schooners off Cole's Island. No change in enemy's camps since last report. Sixteen mortar and 16 columbiad shells were fired from Simkins at Schooner Creek battery; effect unknown. Enemy fired 28 rifle shells at Simkins and Fort Johnson Battery, killing Private Sessions, Company K, First South Carolina Artillery, and wounding 1 man slightly in Bonaud's battalion.

J. L. BLACK,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW, *A. A. G.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *September 12, 1864—1 p. m.*

The reports of firing and observations are as follows: Five monitors, 9 steamers, 7 sailing vessels, 1 schooner, and 9 blockaders off Morris Island; 2 steamers and 1 schooner in Light-House Inlet; 2 gun-boats, 1 transport, and 5 schooners off Cole's Island; 1 schooner in Folly River. One transport and 1 schooner left Cole's Island bound southward, and 1 came in from north; no troops observed on board. No change observed in enemy's camps since last report. Fifteen mortar and 16 columbiad shells were fired from Simkins at Schooner Creek battery; effect unknown. Enemy fired 22 rifle shells at Simkins, doing no damage.

P. N. PAGE,  
*Asst. Adj. Gen. (in absence of Colonel Black).*

Major STRINGFELLOW, *A. A. G.*

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ROYALL'S, *September 12, 1864—9 p. m.*

The enemy landed this afternoon about 150 men on south end of Morris Island, who were marched to Wagner; also a transport came in from the south, going toward Morris Island, apparently loaded with troops. It was, however, too dark to see where she stopped. The enemy fired a number of shots at working party at No. 5, new line, to-day. All quiet on west line.

J. L. BLACK,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW, *A. A. G.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *September 14, 1864—10.50 a. m.*

Reports from observatories state the enemy's fleet to consist of 5 monitors, 8 steamers, 5 sailing vessels, and 7 blockaders off Morris Island; 4 transports and 2 schooners in Light-House Inlet; 2 gun-boats, 1 transport, and 5 schooners off Cole's Island; 1 schooner in Folly River. No change in enemy's encampments. Four mortar and 5 columbiad shells were fired from Simkins at Schooner Creek battery; effect unknown. Enemy fired 12 rifle shells at Simkins and Fort Johnson, doing no damage.

J. L. BLACK,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Maj. CHARLES S. STRINGFELLOW, *A. A. G.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *September 16, 1864.*

There are this morning 4 monitors, 5 steamers, 7 sailing vessels, and 7 blockaders off Morris Island; in Light-House Inlet, 1 transport and 3 schooners; off Cole's Island, 1 gun-boat, 1 transport, and 7 schooners; in Folly River, 1 transport and 1 schooner. The work on Long Island battery has increased some since last night. No firing from any of the batteries of this command yesterday. The enemy fired 12 rifle shells at Simkins and Fort Johnson, and 10 shots from Wagner at Haskell, doing no damage.

J. L. BLACK,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Major STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S, *September 18, 1864—12.40.*

Major Cone, commanding at Secessionville, reports that 400 men landed on south end of Morris Island at 10 o'clock this morning. They came from south end of Big Folly Island.

J. L. BLACK,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Captain FEILDEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S, *September 18, 1864—6.20 p. m.*

Colonel Frederick reports that the enemy have torn up all the bridges between this island and battery and Dixon's Island. Only ten tents to be seen on Horse Island.

J. L. BLACK,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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## No. 41.

*Reports of Col. Charles H. Simonton, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Infantry, of operations April 8 and 15 and May 13.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST LINES,  
*James Island, April 9, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that upon receiving the instructions last night of the brigadier-general commanding I caused all the guns at Pringle and Tynes to be manned, and sent another company of infantry to the former. The pickets on the Stono were increased, and a continued line established from the marsh in front of Pringle to the lower end of Grimbald's field, on the Stono. No movement of the enemy on the river or on the picket front could be observed.

I ask leave, respectfully, to express my full concurrence in the opinion of the absolute necessity for some works between Pringle

and Tynes, from my experience last night. If a determined enemy had landed a thousand men in barges, with gun-boats within supporting distance, it would have been extremely difficult to have held these two batteries, and still more difficult to have dislodged them after the batteries were silenced. We had but a single regiment of infantry within reach, and that weakened by a heavy detail for picket duty. Take in connection with this the distance between Tynes and Pringle, at any point of which boats can land, and it will readily be seen how our present defenseless condition at this part of the line is calculated to make one feel uneasy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SIMONTON,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. P. N. PAGE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS WEST LINES,  
*James Island, April 15, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that this afternoon, about 4.30 p. m., a two-mast gun-boat came up the Stono as far as Legaré's place, on John's Island, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Pringle, and opened fire on our picket-line. At the same time a force, estimated between 100 and 200 of infantry, crossed over from Horse Island to Battery Island, and advanced to the causeway leading to James Island, nearly up to the broken bridge. Also at the same time the enemy opened with a sort of rocket, throwing an iron projectile about 2 feet long, filled with powder and intended to explode. These came from Dixon's Island, but not from the battery. They fired a very short time; when the firing ceased the gun-boat went back. The enemy left Battery Island and destroyed the bridge leading to Horse Island behind them. Our pickets did not leave their posts, and the enemy did not come in collision with any of them at the range of small-arms. While the gun-boat was up the river she fired 5 shots at Pringle. The first shot struck in the river about 200 yards above the battery; the second about the same distance to the left, on the land; the third in the river just below the bridge; the fourth fell short about a mile, and the fifth passed directly over the battery, falling in the field in rear. No one was hurt, and all is quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SIMONTON,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. P. N. PAGE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS WEST LINES,  
*James Island, May 13, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that this morning about sunrise a party of 15 of the enemy landed at the extreme point of the peninsula running to the left of Legaré's house and nearly opposite Long Island. After landing they at once captured Corporal Moorer, Second South Carolina Artillery, and 4 men, who were there on post, and who apparently made no resistance. After capturing these men the enemy returned to Long Island. A small picket is kept at this



point during the day, but there must have been very gross negligence on their part leading to their capture. There was no negligence on the part of the officers in charge of the picket.

Very respectfully,

C. H. SIMONTON,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. P. N. PAGE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SEVENTH MIL. DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
May 13, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The post at which these men were captured is a very important one and very near the enemy. It is strengthened at night, and this unfortunate capture occurred after sunrise, when the supports were withdrawn and it was a mere vedette. The men must have either been all asleep or willing to be captured, as they could have either driven off the boat or have effected their escape. Colonel Simonton says that had they been infantry he is sure they could not have been surprised. As it is, having no infantry in the Second Sub-Division, and none to send there, we have to rely for all duties upon inexperienced men.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

No. 42.

*Reports of Lieut. Col. Joseph A. Yates, First South Carolina Artillery, of assault and attack on Fort Johnson and Battery Simkins.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, July 3, 1864—9. 30 a. m.  
(Received 9.45.)

CAPTAIN: In absence of Colonel Black, commanding, I am instructed and have the honor to forward, without remarks, the following report of Lieutenant-Colonel Yates, commanding at Fort Johnson:

There was no firing from any of the batteries of this command yesterday; the enemy did not fire. The enemy's fleet off Morris Island is as follows: Five monitors and 9 sailing vessels; in Light-House Inlet, 3 schooners. The commander of the expedition (Colonel Hoyt, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Regiment) says the expedition was about 500 or 600 strong, but the adjutant, who is mortally wounded, says they were 1,000 strong; his statement is credited by most the prisoners. I have the honor to report the capture of 140 prisoners, including 5 commissioned officers, including some wounded; also, 5 barges, 114 stand of small-arms with accouterments. Enemy's loss in killed and wounded cannot be estimated, as most of the wounded were taken off; we will be able to tell better at low tide. Our loss very small. The expedition was composed of men of army, advanced in two columns, barges about twenty-eight in number, one column around Gregg, and one down Schooner Creek; as far as ascertained they numbered 1,000 strong. The expedition was formed at south end Morris Island; the prisoners have left for Charleston. The enemy brought implements for intrenching, also rations.

J. R. PRINGLE,  
*Lieutenant and Assistant Inspector-General.*

Captain FEILDEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FORT JOHNSON, *July 10, 1864—11.15 p. m.*

The enemy immediately after dark (he expected no doubt to find us not on the alert) made an attempt to take Battery Simkins, but we opened immediately upon them, heavily, with artillery and infantry, driving them back. Three of their boats effected a landing, but finding the balance of the expedition could not stand up to it they took to their boats and made off. We are all right and ready for them.

J. A. YATES,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Captain WARWICK.

A D D E N D A.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *July 3, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. J. A. YATES, *Comdg., Fort Johnson:*

I most cordially thank you and your command for the gallant and complete repulse of the enemy this morning. I suspect the capture of Fort Johnson was one of the chief objects of the enemy's movements. Thanks to you and your command for so effectually disappointing them.

SAM. JONES,

*Major-General.*

No. 43.

*Report of Lieut. Col. J. Welsman Brown, Second South Carolina Artillery, of skirmish on Pine Island.*

HEADQUARTERS,

*Secessionville, May 11, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor of making the following report of the operations at this post for the past twenty-four hours:

Sixteen of the enemy appeared on Pine Island yesterday morning and immediately went to work cutting an opening in the trees about the center of the island. Two smooth-bore 32-pounders on the southern front were opened on them. After firing a few rounds, the fire was returned from Folly and Morris Islands, from a two-gun battery on Long Island, which has been heretofore masked, and from a little island in front of Campbell's house. This new battery on Long Island is situated just east of a work which has been noticed there for some time on the extreme west end. The enemy fired about 130 shots during the day. We expended twenty-eight 32-pounder round shell, and eleven 32-pounder rifled shell, and one 8-inch round shell. At 10 p. m., two rockets were thrown up on our southern front, apparently on Big Folly Island, immediately followed by a single gun from the new battery on Long Island. At 3 a. m., they opened from two batteries, one considerably to the left of where they unmasked the battery yesterday, and directly behind where the opening was cut on Pine Island. The firing ceased between 4 and 5 a. m., having thrown 44 shots. I did not reply, as very few came into the post; after the fifth or sixth shots nearly all fell to the left of us in the direction of Battery Haskell.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WELSMAN BROWN,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. J. C. REYNOLDS, *Adjutant.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SEVENTH MIL. DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
May 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the major-general commanding.

The shells of the enemy did no damage, but it is to be noticed that they fell within the new lines (southern lines) as far up, I have been informed, as Battery No. 3. It is well also to observe that two new encampments are reported on Folly Island.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
Brigadier-General.

No. 44.

*Report of Lieut. Col. O. M. Dantzler, Twenty-first South Carolina Infantry, of destruction of U. S. steamer Housatonic.*

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY MARSHALL,  
Sullivan's Island, February 19, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that the torpedo-boat stationed at this post went out on the night of the 17th instant (Wednesday) and has not yet returned. The signals agreed upon to be given in case the boat wished a light to be exposed at this post as a guide for its return were observed and answered. An earlier report would have been made of this matter, but the officer of the day for yesterday was under the impression that the boat had returned, and so informed me. As soon as I became apprised of the fact I sent a telegram to Captain Nance, assistant adjutant-general, notifying him of it.

Very respectfully,

O. M. DANTZLER,  
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Lieut. JOHN A. WILSON,  
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 20, 1864.

As soon as its fate shall have been ascertained pay a proper tribute to the gallantry and patriotism of its crew and officers.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
General, Commanding.

No. 45.

*Report of Lieut. Col. John G. Pressley, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Infantry, of operations April 15.*

CAMP TWENTY-FIFTH SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS,  
April 15, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I reported this afternoon when at the front the movements of the enemy, but will now give the colonel commanding a more detailed statement of occurrences:

About 4 p. m., about 75 or 100 men made their appearance on Horse Island (the next one below Battery Island). They brought

plank, laid them on the old bridge, and crossed. They were afterward re-enforced by another party of about the same size. A two-masted schooner-rigged gun-boat moved slowly up and opened fire. At the same time a party stationed on the end of Dixon's Island toward Battery Island commenced firing rockets of two sizes, the larger being about 3 and the smaller about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. The gun-boat and rockets crossed their fire from the James Island end of the Battery Island causeway up to a point about 250 or 300 yards in the field, having to me very much the appearance of a design to cover the advance of their troops. The force on Battery Island advanced to about midway of that island, where the main body stopped, sending from 30 to 50 men as far as the causeway, and an officer with a small party came up to where the bridge on that causeway (now destroyed) once stood. They kept their troops thus disposed till the gun-boat moved slowly up the river to a point by the course of the stream about half a mile above Battery Island, but still maintaining very much the same line of fire. She then moved slowly down, and when passing Battery Island the land forces retired, taking up the planks from the bridge to Horse Island behind them.

There were no casualties among our pickets. I did not retire them, with the exception of the advance post, which was withdrawn about 50 yards for shelter. I established, however, an advanced post on one of the small islands on the right of the causeway in the bushes, to observe the enemy if they should attempt to cross by leaving the causeway to their left.

I will send to-morrow morning one of the larger rockets, to be forwarded, if deemed advisable, to headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PRESSLEY,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Picket-Line.*

Lieut. G. H. MOFFETT,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded. The enemy have no battery on that part of Dixon's Island from which the rockets came; none of the projectiles was known to explode.

C. H. SIMONTON,

*Colonel, Commanding.*

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No. 46.

*Report of Maj. R. A. Wayne, First Georgia Regulars, of skirmish on John's Island.*

IN THE FIELD, *John's Island, July 10, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report:

On the 7th instant, 5 p. m., my command, composed of the First Regiment Georgia Regulars, Companies C, G, and K; Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, and detachments of Companies A, B, F, and I, Second South Carolina Cavalry (dismounted), inclusive of six pieces of artillery, was attacked by the enemy. On my left a heavy



line of skirmishers was repulsed twice. On my right, which was guarded by the detachments of the Second South Carolina Cavalry (40 in number), the enemy advanced the Twenty-sixth U. S. Regiment (colored), forcing them to retire several hundred yards after desperate resistance. Re-enforcing with Company G, Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, and Companies F, G, and M, First Georgia Regulars, they were driven back in confusion. Being re-enforced by the One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Regiment (white), they again advanced and were handsomely repulsed. They made two other efforts, with like result. The artillery, Captain Parker commanding, was used with much effect. The detachment of the Second South Carolina Cavalry being on the right suffered severely, and held their ground gallantly till forced to retire before superior numbers, their loss being 40 per cent.

It would be invidious to discriminate where all acted so gallantly. My couriers—Privates Roper and White, of Company I, Second South Carolina Cavalry—deserve particular notice for efficiency on the field.

My loss was 8 killed and 18 wounded. The enemy left their dead and several of their wounded in our hands and their loss was heavy.

At 6.30 p. m. everything was again quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. A. WAYNE,  
*Major, Commanding.*

Captain JOHNSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 47.

*Report of Maj. William S. Basinger, Eighteenth Battalion Georgia Infantry, of operations May 13-16.*

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Sullivan's Island, May 17, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the brigadier-general commanding district, the operations of the artillery at the west end of this island on the 13th, 14th, and 16th instant:

On the 13th, two of the enemy's monitors, names unknown, apparently new vessels, moved up the harbor at about 11 a. m. and began a heavy fire on the angle made by the east and northeast faces of Sumter. The batteries on Morris Island co-operated vigorously with the monitors. The fire continued with greater or less rapidity through the day. About fifty 10-inch shot were fired at the monitors from Fort Moultrie and Batteries Rutledge and Beauregard, a number of which took effect; but the vessels occupied a position which was not within the field of fire of most of our guns, and too remote from those which would bear to encourage the expenditure of much ammunition. Our fire was therefore slow and soon discontinued. At dusk the monitors retired. The Morris Island batteries maintained a slow fire all night.

At the same hour on the 14th instant, the monitors returned to the attack, taking a position rather nearer Fort Sumter, and also to the batteries on this island. The Morris Island batteries co-operated as on the day before. Having a better opportunity to injure the

vessels, our fire was much heavier. The guns bearing on them were served rapidly, especially after noon, and at the same time a heavy fire from all our mortar batteries and guns bearing on Morris Island was opened on the enemy there. Our batteries on James Island also kept up a simultaneous fire on the land batteries of the enemy. The result was that the activity of those batteries sensibly diminished, and at times ceased altogether. The operations of the monitors were also materially interrupted. They were hit repeatedly, and finding themselves compelled to avoid our shot by moving to and fro continually, which greatly impaired the accuracy of their own aim at Fort Sumter, they finally abandoned their attack for the day and moved off at an early hour.

On the 16th, the attack was renewed at the same hour. During the night of the 14th and 15th, arrangements had been made to enable us to command the position usually occupied by the monitors with several more of our heavy guns, by opening new embrasures through the merlons thrown up in front of them. The enemy, probably having sustained no injury before, came up quite audaciously on this day, approaching even nearer than on the 14th instant. Our fire was extremely rapid from four 10-inch guns, one 11-inch, one 7-inch Brooke, and one 10-inch, rifled and banded, and it was as accurate as rapid. I do not think it could be surpassed. Out of 92 shots, 35 were palpable hits, some of them hard. One of the vessels had the roof of her pilot-house knocked partly off, and the smoke-stacks of both were repeatedly pierced. Some shots struck at or near the base of the turret; others apparently between wind and water. In an hour and a half both vessels retired, and have not since renewed their attempt.

The Morris Island batteries all along maintained a slow but steady fire on Sumter. The monitors did not on either occasion reply to the batteries on this island. The Morris Island batteries fired at Fort Moultrie on the 14th, thrice with 10-inch columbiads, once with 200-pounder Parrott, but without effect.

I cannot but consider the action of the 16th as clearly indicating the ability of our heavy guns to cope with the iron vessels of the enemy. On the 14th, they were very uncomfortable. But their withdrawal on the 16th was a complete acknowledgment of their unwillingness to encounter us for any length of time. It was impossible, of course, to know the exact amount and character of the injuries they received. But the slowness of their fire and their early escape from ours made it certain that it was more than they could safely endure. At all events they must have considered the risk disproportionate to the mischief they hoped to accomplish by renewing their bombardment of Fort Sumter.

All the batteries at the west end of the island were engaged more or less according to the distance and the location of their guns, and at all a high degree of skill was exhibited.

For particulars as to the guns used, &c., I beg leave to refer to the report\* of Captain Huguenin, in immediate command of these batteries, herewith forwarded.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. BASINGER,  
*Major, Commanding.*

Capt. E. M. SEABROOK,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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\* See p. 271.

## No. 48.

*Reports of Maj. John Jenkins, Third South Carolina Cavalry, of operations July 3-10 and the burning of Legareville.*

## JOHN'S ISLAND, July 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders from Brigadier-General Robertson the following report of the operations of my command during the recent movements of the enemy on John's Island is respectfully submitted:

The enemy on the 3d instant landed three regiments, with a few cavalry, on Seabrook Island; also a body of infantry, with some artillery, at Legaré's Point place and Legareville, and a third body of troops at Rockville. Capt. E. L. Parker, then commanding on John's Island, having no force to resist their advance, judiciously withdrew his troops, a mere picket of about 80 mounted men, to Curtis', and scouted the island in his front, and placed a piece of artillery to cover the crossing from Wadmalaw. The enemy rebuilt the bridge over the Haulover and crossed their troops and wagon train from Seabrook to John's Island, and advanced up to the Cocked Hat, where they encamped and formed line of battle.

On the 4th, they marched down the Kiaawah River road to the Stono side of the island, concentrating their forces for their advance up the river road. Having made a personal reconnaissance to the Haulover and ascertained definitely this move, I sent a scouting party down the Stono River road to learn the position and strength of the enemy.

This party encountered their advance at McElhany's on the morning of the 5th, and were fired into, W. Godfrey, of the Stono Scouts, being shot severely in the foot, but escaped and brought me intelligence that the enemy were advancing in very heavy force. I immediately ordered all the cavalry except a few vedettes to that side of the island to confront and check, or at least retard, their advance. I had that morning been re-enforced by the First Georgia Regular Regiment, Major Wayne, about 230 men. My force being insufficient to beat the enemy back, I marched with the troops and a Napoleon gun, of the Marion, and a howitzer, of Charles' battery, down the Bohicket and Edendale roads to get in rear of the enemy, with the hope of alarming them for their communications, and thus inducing a withdrawal, which I had not force to compel by a direct attack in front. We attacked and routed a body of troops (colored), killing 2 of them, at Huntscum's Corner, and advanced to attack their force at Roper's and the Aberpoolie, when I received information that the enemy in overwhelming numbers were steadily driving our cavalry, who were too feeble to offer effective resistance to them, and that they had advanced to Gervais'. Upon this information of their rapid progress we countermarched 11 miles to get in their front, and took position at Grimball's Waterloo place.

On the morning of the 6th, enemy threw forward his skirmishers, who approached to within 400 yards of our line, but were dispersed and driven back in confusion by a few rounds of canister and shell, which did some execution among them.

On the 7th, they took possession of some buildings in Gervais' field with their sharpshooters, who were very annoying, but whom we finally succeeded in dislodging and silencing. The enemy for the



first time brought forward artillery, and a sharp engagement ensued between their and our artillery, the two guns of the Marion, under Lieutenant Murdoch, two howitzers, Charles' battery, under command of Lieutenant Logan, making excellent practice, all under the supervision of Captain Parker.

At 11 a. m., the firing had ceased, and everything being quiet at 3 p. m., I left for Charleston to see General Jones, who General Robertson informed me had been endeavoring unsuccessfully to communicate with me by signals.

During my absence the enemy attacked and succeeded in turning our extreme right by a flank movement, but the cavalry (dis-mounted), under command of Captain Clark, Second South Carolina Regiment, made a most determined and desperate resistance, his company of 21 men present losing 13 men—7 killed and 6 wounded. He was ably seconded by Captain Dean, of same regiment, who with 13 men charged the enemy on their left flank, throwing them into confusion. A gun of the Marion, judiciously posted, rendered much assistance in repelling the enemy or holding him in check until our right was re-enforced by companies from the First and Thirty-second Georgia Regiments, drawn from portion of our line which was not engaged and led to the assistance of Major Wayne, commanding in my absence, who displayed alike correct judgment and cool courage and skill in handling his troops, and handsomely repulsed the enemy with loss in repeated assaults upon our line. One of the Parrott guns of the Washington Artillery, Lieutenant Horsey commanding, was particularly effective, being advanced in front of our line and enfilading the assaulting party of the enemy. Our officers and men exhibited steadiness and unflinching firmness. Major Wayne's report of the action renders anything beyond this general reference on my part superfluous.

On the 8th, General Robertson arrived and took command. Re-enforcements came up. He determined to attack the enemy and drive him from the island.

At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, I was ordered by General Robertson to direct Colonel Harrison, of the Thirty-second Georgia, to advance upon the enemy and carry his lines, unless he encountered too severe a fire of artillery, in which event he was to withdraw and not sacrifice his men. I was ordered by the general to take command of the second or supporting line, consisting of three companies Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, First Regiment Georgia Regulars, Major Wayne, and detachment Fourth Georgia Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Harris, to act as circumstances might require. Colonel Harrison at 3.30 a. m. moved forward his line of battle, formed parallel with the enemy's breast-works. His attacking force consisted of seven companies of his own regiment, which formed his right wing, and Bonaud's battalion and the Forty-seventh Georgia Regiment, Colonel Edwards, which formed his left wing. His line of battle extended about 400 yards in length, preceded by a line of skirmishers of double that front and 300 yards in advance. The Stono River road, with hedges on both sides of it, cut his line of battle in two. Colonel Harrison, being unacquainted with the ground and position of the enemy, desired me to suggest the plan of attack, and I submitted two—either to mass his troops on the right of the road and carry the enemy's left, merely attacking his right with skirmishers (if this attack on enemy's left succeeded his right would be isolated, as his right was in front of a creek running in his rear



up to the road and said to be impassable), or, second, to form his line of battle on both sides of the road and pierce their center. The latter was preferred and adopted. I was then directed to hold the line occupied by our troops (between Gervais' and Grimbail's), in order that if Colonel Harrison was repulsed and pursued by the enemy we might be in position with fresh troops to cover his retreat and check their pursuit. Colonel Harrison then ordered the charge, and his line moved steadily and sternly across the field, met and drove in the enemy's skirmishers, and advanced upon their breast-works. His skirmishers, encountering a fearfully heavy fire, were checked until re-enforced by his line of battle, when the onward movement was resumed under a storm of bullets.

In the mistiness of the morning, the smoke resting upon the ground, I was unable to see his troops, and supposing from the continuance of the rapid fire on both sides that Colonel Harrison had encountered too heavy a force intrenched for him to carry their works without assistance, and that his men, held at bay, would be decimated and perhaps eventually driven back, to insure success I ordered the advance of the entire reserve to his support. The left wing of my line, commanded by Captain Fort, not coming forward immediately (whether from not promptly receiving the order or other cause), I moved forward without waiting for it with our right wing, consisting of detachment of Fourth Georgia Cavalry (dis-mounted), commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Harris, and the First Regiment Georgia Regulars, commanded by Major Wayne, the right of our attacking force appearing to me to be in need of instant help. But while our line advanced steadily and rapidly under a severe fire, which they had to endure with loss, without returning, for our men in front, before we reached Colonel Harrison, that gallant officer and the splendid troops under him, bravely led by their officers, had swept the enemy's lines and his skirmishers pushed beyond. Here he paused and the enemy brought up his reserves and his artillery and destroyed the bridge across the head of creek, and, sweeping the front of our new line (taken from them) with canister and shrapnel, advanced their skirmishers, who became sharply engaged with ours almost throughout the day.

At night the enemy quietly withdrew to the protection of their gun-boats, and next day embarked their forces, burning their commissary stores ashore.

List of casualties in my command having been furnished by immediate commanders, a recapitulation is unnecessary.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN JENKINS,  
*Major.*

Captain JOHNSTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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JOHN'S ISLAND, August 21, 1864.

Last night at 9 o'clock I burnt Legareville. The buildings were at almost the same instant set on fire and were in a few minutes a sheet of flames. The battery on Horse Island fired a farewell shot into the picket house before we had left. After a considerable time the battery and gun-boat renewed their fire, throwing their shell into the village and up the peninsula upon which Legareville

stood to Bryan's place, a distance of 3 miles. Some 15 or 20 shots were fired, from which we sustained no injury. When the determination to destroy the village was announced the Stono Scouts, owners of property on the place, volunteered to aid the detachment from Captain Clark's company ordered for the purpose, 16 such members applying the torches to their own dwellings. To-day, after sixteen months' duty on this outpost, I turn over the command to Captain Parker, and report to my regiment with regret that my last official act on the island should have been, under an imperative sense of duty, to recommend the destruction of the property of our own people (most of them my relatives and friends), and assisting with my own hands in applying the torch to their dwellings. I am only reconciled by reflection that the property had served useful ends to the enemy, who were removing it for their accommodation to the islands in their possession, and it would have been in any event lost to the owners. Five schooners, 2 brigs, and 1 gun-boat in the Stono and Folly Rivers; 1 gun-boat in the North Edisto River.

JOHN JENKINS,  
*Major, Commanding.*

Capt. H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 49.

*Reports of Lieut. Col. Del. Kemper, C. S. Artillery, of operations  
July 7-9.*

HDQRS. SECOND AND SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICTS,  
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ARTILLERY,  
*Adams' Run, July 16, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: Proceeding to John's Island on the 7th instant, under orders to examine the position of affairs and to report to the brigadier-general commanding, I reached the position occupied by our troops, a line extending across and at right angle to the river road, about 1 mile below Stevens', just previous to and therefore in time to participate in the affair of that (Thursday) evening. I found the artillery disposed as follows: Two 10-pounder Parrotts of Walter's battery, under Lieutenant Horsey; two 12-pounder howitzers of Charles' battery, under Lieutenant Logan, and one 12-pounder Napoleon, of Parker's battery, under Lieutenant Lowndes, in front with the thin line of infantry. One 12-pounder Napoleon, of Parker's battery, under Lieutenant Murdoch, was 400 yards in rear of the center, and the remaining two pieces (12-pounder Napoleons) of that battery, under Lieutenant Wilkins, were near Curtis', guarding the Bohicket River and Wadmalaw Island roads. The enemy delivered a feeble assault on our right. At 5.15 p. m. our infantry on that flank were doubled back at right angles to the front, but stubbornly maintained their last position. Lieutenant Horsey, having run one of his 10-pounder Parrotts out in the front of our center, fired a few shots therefrom into the flanking column. Lieutenant Murdoch also opened on them with good effect, and the cavalry attacked them in flank and rear. These causes induced them to retire in confusion.

A desultory fire was kept up from the other pieces against the enemy whenever he became visible. Our line on the right was at once rectified, and in a few minutes there was nothing but desultory firing, and by 6 p. m. that also ceased.

I started at 6.30 p. m. to return to Adams' Run, but meeting General Robertson at Church Flats reported to him there and accompanied him to Stevens' next morning. The occurrences of the following day, as far as the artillery is concerned, will be detailed in another report.

My thanks are due to Sergeant Seabrook for zeal and coolness in performance of duty.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

DEL. KEMPER,

*Lieutenant-Colonel of Artillery.*

Captain JOHNSTON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Number of rounds expended in action from 6th to 9th, inclusive :

10-pounder Parrott :	
Shell .....	164
Canister .....	19
12-pounder Napoleon :	
Shell .....	73
Canister .....	6
Solid shot .....	21
12-pounder howitzers :	
Shell .....	221
Canister .....	33
Total number of rounds (458 shell, 58 canister, and 21 solid shot) .....	537

#### HDQRS. SECOND AND SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICTS,

##### OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ARTILLERY,

*Adams' Run, July 16, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : Daybreak on Saturday, 9th instant, found the artillery on John's Island, consisting of Parker's four 12-pounder Napoleons, Walter's two 10-pounder Parrotts and two 12-pounder Napoleons, and Charles' two 12-pounder howitzers, disposed as follows, viz : All the pieces distributed at convenient intervals along the line of infantry, except Walter's two Napoleons, under Lieutenant Salvo, which were placed near Curtis' to guard our flank and rear. By General Robertson's orders the infantry moved forward at dawn and easily drove the enemy from his front line of works. I then advanced two pieces of artillery (a 12-pounder Napoleon of Parker's battery, under Lieutenant Wilkins, and a 12-pounder howitzer of Charles' battery, under Lieutenant Logan) and put them in position to cover Burden's Causeway. The musketry fire of the enemy, however, being very heavy, induced Colonel Harrison to withdraw Lieutenant Wilkins (who was nearest the causeway and in the road) about 100 yards toward the rear, the determination of the general not to advance farther in the face of such overwhelming odds rendering the preservation of the causeway of no moment. A few rounds were fired from Lieutenant Murdoch's Napoleons, on our left, and 1 shell fired from the Parrotts in the center, which, bursting



before it had cleared our own lines, warned against its repetition. The limited use made of the artillery on this occasion must be ascribed to the singularly unfavorable nature of the ground.

Private Clements deserves thanks for zealous performance of duty. The list of casualties hereto appended shows 7 wounded, of whom 1 (Private Lynch, of Walter's battery) has since died. Six horses were disabled, 4 killed. Officers and men all displayed the most commendable coolness and enthusiasm.

Very respectfully, captain, your obedient servant,

DEL. KEMPER,

*Lieutenant-Colonel of Artillery.*

Captain JOHNSTON, A. A. A. G.

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No. 50.

*Reports of Capt. Thomas A. Huguenin, First South Carolina Infantry (Regulars), of operations May 13-16.*

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY,  
*West End Sullivan's Island, May 16, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: Pursuant to instructions I have the honor to make the following consolidated report of the events at the batteries of this command on the 13th and 14th and 16th instant:

From Battery Bee there were fired ten 10-inch columbiad shells at Gregg on the 14th, and four 11-inch solid shot at the monitors on the 16th, 1 taking effect. No firing from this battery on the 13th.

From Battery Marion, May 14, ninety-two 10-inch mortar shells. May 16, 11 hollow shot from Brooke gun, 4 taking effect; seven 10-inch columbiad solid shot, 3 taking effect. No firing from this battery on the 13th.

From Fort Moultrie, May 13, three 10-inch solid shot. May 14, nine 8-inch in hollow from 8-inch columbiad, rifled; two 10-inch in solid shot 10-inch columbiad. May 16, twenty-two 10-inch in solid shot 10-inch columbiad, 13 taking effect.

From Battery Rutledge, May 13, thirty-eight 10-inch columbiad shot, 8 taking effect; seven 10-inch rifled shot, 9 taking effect. May 14, thirty-one 10-inch columbiad, 11 taking effect; thirty-three 10-inch mortar shells on Morris Island. May 16, thirty-four 10-inch columbiad, 13 effective; two 10-inch columbiad, rifled, 9 effective.

From Battery Beauregard there were fired on the 13th, 14th, and 16th, 37 solid shots and 2 shells. The monitors were struck on the 13th once, on the 14th twice, and on the 16th once.

Respectfully submitted.

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. E. P. STARR, A. A. A. G.

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HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY,  
*West End Sullivan's Island, May 16, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to instructions I have the honor to make the following report of the firing from my command this morning:

About 11 a. m., two monitors steamed up to within 1,800 yards of Fort Moultrie and anchored abreast of each other. The guns of



Moultrie, Rutledge, Beauregard, Marion, and Bee which could bear were opened upon them, firing as rapidly as was consistent with accuracy.

The battery commanders report the following as the number of shots fired and the number which struck. It will be seen from this report that the two 10-inch columbiads in Moultrie, under command of Lieutenant Minott, fired 22 shots, of which 13 took effect, which, considering the distance, I do not think has ever been surpassed. I witnessed the firing and am happy in saying that it is worthy of commendation. One of the monitors had the knob on the top of the pilot-house smashed into pieces. It will be seen that the 7-inch Brooke gun hit 4 times. I noticed one to be a very severe blow on the side of the turret.

The enemy did not return our fire, but after firing a few shots at Sumter returned to the fleet about one hour and a half after the commencement of the action:

From Fort Moultrie, twenty-two 10-inch columbiad shots, 13 effective. From Battery Bee, four 11-inch Dahlgren, 1 effective. From Battery Rutledge, thirty-four 10-inch columbiad, 13 effective; two 10-inch rifled columbiad, not effective. From Battery Marion, eleven 7-inch Brooke gun, 4 effective; seven 10-inch columbiad, 3 effective. From Battery Beauregard, three 8-inch rifled, 1 effective; seven 10-inch columbiad, not effective.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. HUGUENIN,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Lieut. E. P. STARR,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

#### JANUARY 7, 1864.—Affair on Waccamaw Neck, S. C.

##### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. James H. Trapier, C. S. Army.

No. 2.—Maj. William P. White, Twenty-first Battalion Georgia Cavalry.

##### No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. James H. Trapier, C. S. Army.*

HDQRS. FOURTH MIL. DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
*Georgetown, January 8, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the capture of 4 officers and 20 men belonging to one of the enemy's blockading vessels on this coast, under the following circumstances: The steamer *Dan*, from Bermuda, in attempting to run the blockade into Wilmington was discovered and chased off. Finding escape impossible she was beached at about 12 m. yesterday, on the Waccamaw Beach, at a point some 12 or 15 miles north of Georgetown entrance. Her officers and crew and her passengers were all landed in safety, the steamer having been first fired. The enemy, in attempting to reach her in barges, encountered a very rough sea and their barges were capsized. Three of their men were drowned; the remainder succeeded in reaching the shore and soon after surrendered to Maj. William P. White, 1 officer and 1 man, without firing a shot, though with arms in their hands.

I shall send these prisoners to Kingstree on Monday next, and respectfully request that they be met there by a detachment from Charleston in order that my men may return immediately. I require the services of them all.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. TRAPIER,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Maj. William P. White, Twenty-first Battalion Georgia Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS CAMP TRAPIER,  
*Waccamaw Forces, January 26, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: In conformity to General Orders, No. 128, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, paragraph 1, I feel it a duty incumbent on me, as well as a pleasure, to notice the meritorious conduct of Junior Second Lieut. Thomas Young and Private Lemuel Robertson, both of Company C, Twenty-first Georgia Cavalry Battalion, who gallantly charged upon 25 Abolitionists on Dubardu Beach, Waccamaw, S. C., on the 7th instant, armed with cutlasses and pistols, and aided in compelling them to lay down their arms and surrender when there was no supporting forces within three-quarters of a mile of the parties. To my surprise, instead of one volley at least, the whole party, commanded by a lieutenant of the U. S. Navy, obeyed the summons, were taken prisoners, and were delivered up to your order.

Very respectfully, yours,

WM. P. WHITE,

*Major, Comdg. Twenty-first Georgia Cav. Battalion.*

Capt. WILLIAM GREENE,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**JANUARY 25, 1864.—Affair at Bayou Grand, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF PENSACOLA,  
*Barrancas, Fla., January 27, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report of January 10, No. 20, in regard to rebel movements in my neighborhood, the following additional information:

Off Mobile the gun-boat Tennessee is not yet over the bar; the small steamer Boston, with two guns and forty bales of cotton, is ready to run the blockade for Havana. The garrison at Mobile was increased with five regiments of infantry from Montgomery. There are in all now eight regiments, 500 to 700 strong each. Fort Morgan is garrisoned at present by 1,000 men; Fort Grant by 300. The rebel force at Pollard is 1,200, employed toward Milton and on the railroad toward Mobile. The cavalry that were stationed between the Blackwater and Escambia have been ordered to Mobile and their

places supplied by a small force, 120 infantry and a detail of 16 mounted men, to arrest deserters and conscripts. Two companies of cavalry at Camp Withers, this side of Bonsecours Bay, are still there, and two new companies at the head of Choctawhatchee Bay, but this detachment could be taken with their horses and arms very easily if a small steamer could be placed at my disposal. The expedition on the small naval steamer *Bloomer* (reported in No. 20) was not able to reach the head of the bay, as the *Bloomer* was retained by commander at East Pass, and the schooner *Champion* taken by him and his men, making the co-operation of our men impracticable.

Notwithstanding these difficulties and disappointments, there are already there 157 men enlisted in the Florida regiments, besides those who entered the [Fourteenth] New York Cavalry and the Seventh Vermont Infantry.

Being entirely without fresh beef, I started day before yesterday a party of infantry and cavalry across the Bayou Grand. Twenty men of the [Fourteenth] New York Cavalry fell in, 4 miles from the bayou, with a scouting party of rebel cavalry, and succeeded, by a spirited charge, to capture 10 of them, with horses and arms; our loss, 1 horse. The gallant Colonel Holbrook was in command of the small expedition. Copies of special orders relative to it are respectfully inclosed.

Rebel papers state that an expedition of 12,000 men started from New Orleans to make a land attack upon Mobile, and I beg to refer to my several reports relative to the necessity of cutting off railroad communication between Mobile and Montgomery. The re-enforcements predicted are already passing into Mobile from Johnston's (formerly Bragg's) army, and I would therefore most respectfully request that the small steamers and the combined brigade be ordered here, thus enabling me to destroy at once the Mobile and Montgomery Railroad communication, and facilitate and insure the success of the Union force moving by land upon Mobile.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE, *Chief of Staff.*

## FEBRUARY 5-22, 1864.—The Florida Expedition.

### SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

- Feb. 7, 1864.—Occupation of Jacksonville by Union forces.  
8, 1864.—Skirmish at Ten-Mile Run, near Camp Finegan.  
10, 1864.—Skirmish at Barber's Ford.  
11, 1864.—Skirmish at Lake City.  
14, 1864.—Skirmish at Gainesville.  
20, 1864.—Engagement at Olustee, or Ocean Pond.

### REPORTS.

- No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South.  
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Truman Seymour, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.  
No. 3.—Surg. Adolph Majer, U. S. Army, of engagement at Olustee.  
No. 4.—Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Olustee.



- No. 5.—Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 6.—Capt. Benjamin F. Skinner, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 7.—Capt. Charles C. Mills, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 8.—Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 9.—Capt. Romanzo C. Bailey, Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 10.—Lieut. Elijah Lewis, Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 11.—Lieut. Andrew F. Ely, Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 12.—Col. Edward N. Hallowell, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 13.—Capt. Loomis L. Langdon, Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 14.—Lieut. John R. Myrick, Battery E, Third U. S. Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 15.—Lieut. Henry H. Metcalf, Company C, Third Rhode Island Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 16.—General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.
- No. 17.—Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, C. S. Army, commanding District of East Florida.
- No. 18.—Lieut. M. B. Grant, C. S. Engineers, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 19.—Lieut. T. E. Buckman, Ordnance Officer, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 20.—Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Colquitt, C. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 21.—Capt. John F. Wheaton, Chatham Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 22.—Capt. Robert H. Gamble, Leon Light Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 23.—Capt. Joseph L. Dunham, Company A, Milton Light Artillery, of operations February 8-9.
- No. 24.—Lieut. Drury Rambo, Company A, Milton Light Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 25.—Col. George P. Harrison, jr., Thirty-second Georgia Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 26.—Capt. John M. Guerard, Georgia Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.
- No. 27.—Col. Caraway Smith, commanding Cavalry Brigade, of engagement at Olustee.

## No. 1.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
Hilton Head, S. C., November 9, 1865.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,  
Washington, D. C. :

SIR : I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of my original report to the General-in-Chief of operations in Florida in February, 1864, prior to and comprising the battle of Olustee. All important documents having any direct bearing on the subject, including Brig-



adier-General Seymour's report of that battle, are attached in the form of appendices. These are lettered from A to S, inclusive, and are deemed necessary to a thorough comprehension of those operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., March 7, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith copies of certain letters and telegraphic dispatches which comprise the instructions given to Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, relative to operations in Florida prior to the fight at Olustee on the 20th ultimo. A brief narrative of events connected with the recent occupation of Florida, west of the Saint John's River, will not be out of place.

Under date of December 22, 1863, I was authorized by you to undertake such operations in my department as I might deem best, suggesting conference with Admiral Dahlgren, &c.\*

On January 14, 1864, I wrote you that unless it would interfere with the views of the War Department I should occupy the west bank of the Saint John's River, in Florida, very soon, and establish small depots there, preparatory to an advance west at an early day.

On January 15, I wrote to the Secretary of War that I had in contemplation the occupation of Florida, on the west bank of the Saint John's River, at a very early day.

Under date of January 22, you informed me that in regard to my proposed operations in Florida the Secretary replied that the matter had been left entirely to my judgment and discretion, with the means at my command, and that, as the object of the proposed expedition had not been explained, it was impossible for you to judge of its advantages or practicability.

On January 31, I wrote informing you that the objects to be obtained by the operations were, first, to procure an outlet for cotton, lumber, timber, &c.; second, to cut off one of the enemy's sources of commissary supplies; third, to obtain recruits for my colored regiments; fourth, to inaugurate measures for the speedy restoration of Florida to her allegiance, in accordance with instructions which I had received from the President by the hand of Maj. John Hay, assistant adjutant-general. (See Appendix A.)

On February 5, I directed General Seymour (see Appendix G), whose command was already embarked, to go to Jacksonville, Fla., effect a landing there, and push forward his mounted force to Baldwin, 20 miles from Jacksonville, the junction of the two railroads from Jacksonville and Fernandina. A portion of the command reached Baldwin on the 9th, at which point I joined it on the evening of the same day. At that time the enemy had no force in East Florida, except the scattered fragments of General Finegan's command. We had taken all of his artillery.

On the 10th, a portion of our forces were sent toward Sanderson, and I returned to Jacksonville.

Telegraphic communication was established between Jacksonville and Baldwin on the 11th. On that day I telegraphed to General Seymour (see Appendix J) not to risk a repulse in advancing on Lake City, but to hold Sanderson unless there were reasons for fall-

\* See Vol. XXVIII, Part II, p. 134.

ing back which I did not know, and also (see Appendix K), in case his advance met with serious opposition, to concentrate at Sanderson and the South Fork of the Saint Mary's, and, if necessary, to bring back Colonel Henry (commanding the mounted force) to the latter place. (For General Seymour's reply see Appendix L.)

On the 12th, General Seymour informed me from Sanderson (see Appendix M) that he should fall back to the South Fork of the Saint Mary's as soon as Colonel Henry, whom he had ordered back from the front, had returned. On the same day I telegraphed to General Seymour (dispatch, see Appendix N) that I wanted his command at and beyond Baldwin concentrated at Baldwin without delay, for reasons which I gave him. (For reply see Appendix O.)

General Seymour joined me at Jacksonville on the 14th, the main body of his command being at that time at Baldwin as directed. He had, however, sent Colonel Henry toward the left to capture some railroad trains at Gainesville, on the Fernandina and Cedar Keys Railroad.

After arranging with General Seymour for the construction of certain defenses at Jacksonville, Baldwin, and the South Fork of the Saint Mary's, I started for Hilton Head on the 15th, leaving behind me Captain Reese, of the Engineers, to give the necessary instructions for the defenses referred to. I considered it well understood at that time between General Seymour and myself that no advance would be made without further instructions from me, nor until the defenses were well advanced.

On the 18th, I was greatly surprised at receiving a letter from General Seymour, dated the 17th (see Appendix P), stating that he intended to advance without supplies in order to destroy the railroad near the Suwannee River, 100 miles from Jacksonville. I at once dispatched General Turner (my chief of staff) to Jacksonville to stop the movement. He was the bearer of a letter to General Seymour (see Appendix Q). Upon arriving at Jacksonville, after considerable delay, due to the inclemency of the weather, he learned that General Seymour was engaged with the enemy in front, near Olustee. When I left Jacksonville on the 15th instant I was entirely satisfied with the success of our operations up to that time. I briefly communicated to you my plans with regard to Florida in my letter of February 13, from which I extract as follows, viz :

General Seymour's advance has been within 4 miles of Lake City, but as his instructions were not to risk a repulse or make an attack when there was a prospect of incurring much loss, he has taken up a position at Baldwin, the junction of the railroad from Jacksonville with the one from Fernandina. He holds also the crossing of the Saint Mary's South Fork, about 12 miles west of Baldwin. I intend to construct small works capable of resisting a *coup de main* at Jacksonville, Baldwin, Palatka, and perhaps one or two other important points so strong that 200 or 300 men will be sufficient at each point. Twenty-five hundred men, in addition to the two regiments that have been permanently stationed in this State (one at Saint Augustine and one at Fernandina), ought to be ample in Florida. The artillery captured here will suffice for such defensive works as may be deemed necessary. I desire to see the lumber and turpentine trade on the Saint John's River revived by loyal men, and for that purpose, and to give assurance that our occupation of this river is intended to be permanent, I have written to the Secretary of the Treasury recommending that the port of Jacksonville be declared open.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief.*

## APPENDIX A.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
Washington, January 13, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

I understand an effort is being made by some worthy gentlemen to reconstruct a loyal State government in Florida. Florida is in your department, and it is not unlikely that you may be there in person. I have given Mr. Hay a commission of major and sent him to you with some blank books and other blanks to aid in the reconstruction. He will explain as to the manner of using the blanks, and also my general views on the subject. It is desirable for all to co-operate; but if irreconcilable differences of opinion shall arise, you are master. I wish the thing done in the most speedy way possible, so that when done it will be within the range of the late proclamation on the subject. The detail labor, of course, will have to be done by others, but I shall be greatly obliged if you will give it such general supervision as you can find convenient with your more strictly military duties.

Yours, very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

## APPENDIX B.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
Folly Island, S. C., January 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief, &c.:*

SIR: Unless it will interfere with the views of the War Department, I shall occupy the west bank of the Saint John's River, in Florida, very soon, and establish small depots there preparatory to an advance west at an early day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

## APPENDIX C.

FOLLY ISLAND, January 15, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,  
*Secretary of War:*

MY DEAR SIR: I wrote by last mail to Major Foster, and also to the General-in-Chief, requesting that the new colored regiments formed and being formed in the North be sent to this department. I gave no reason why these troops were wanted, but I take occasion to inform you that I have in contemplation the occupation of Florida, on the west bank of the Saint John's River, at a very early day, and I want these new regiments to garrison the posts from which I draw the troops for the expedition. Moreover, I am obliged to mount some of my very best infantry, as my entire cavalry force is less than 300 effective men. My plan in a great measure depends upon my getting these new colored regiments, which Colonel Littlefield informs me it is your intention to send here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General.*



## APPENDIX D.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
*Washington, D. C., January 22, 1864.*

Major-General GILLMORE,  
*Department of the South:*

GENERAL: Your confidential letter to the Secretary of War was duly submitted. As the wants of the Department of the Gulf are much more pressing than yours, a part of the colored regiments have been sent there. In regard to your proposed operations in Florida, the Secretary replied that the matter had been left entirely to your judgment and discretion, with the means at your command. As the object of the expedition has not been explained, it is impossible to judge here of its advantages or practicability. If it is expected to give an outlet for cotton, or open a favorable field for the enlistment of colored troops, the advantages may be sufficient to justify the expense in money and troops. But simply as military operations I attach very little importance to such expeditions. If successful they merely absorb our troops in garrisons to occupy the places, but have little or no influence upon the progress of the war.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief.*

## APPENDIX E.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, January 31, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of the 22d instant I beg leave to state that the objects and advantages to be secured by the occupation of that portion of Florida within my reach, viz, the richest portions between the Suwannee and the Saint John's Rivers, are: First. To procure an outlet for cotton, lumber, timber, turpentine, and the other products of that State. Second. To cut off one of the enemy's sources of commissary supplies. He now draws largely upon the herds of Florida for his beef, and is making preparations to take up a portion of the Fernandina and Saint Mark's Railroad for the purpose of connecting the road from Jacksonville to Tallahassee with Thomasville, on the Savannah, Albany and Gulf Railroad, and perhaps with Albany, on the Southwestern Railroad. Third. To obtain recruits for my colored regiments. Fourth. To inaugurate measures for the speedy restoration of Florida to her allegiance, in accordance with instructions which I have received from the President by the hands of Maj. John Hay, assistant adjutant-general.

I am expected to accomplish these objects with the means at my command. The only requisitions which I have made in excess of my ordinary wants to enable me to accomplish this work speedily are for 1,500 horses and 1,500 sets horse equipments, to enable me to mount some infantry. If the filling of these requisitions will occasion any embarrassment to the departments of supply they can be reduced 30 per cent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*



## APPENDIX F.

HEADQUARTERS,

*Hilton Head, February 4, 1864—8 p. m.*

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR,

*Commanding, Hilton Head, &c.:*

You will embark without delay the following regiments and batteries of your command, upon transports that the chief quartermaster has been directed to furnish you, viz: Colonel Barton's brigade, comprising Seventh Connecticut and Seventh New Hampshire Regiments Volunteer Infantry, and (temporarily) the Eighth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops; Montgomery's brigade, comprising Second South Carolina Volunteers (colored), Third U. S. Volunteers (colored), Fifty-fourth Massachusetts (colored) Volunteers; Henry's mounted brigade, comprising Fortieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and the Independent Battalion Massachusetts Cavalry; Langdon's light battery (four pieces), Elder's horse battery (four pieces), one section of James' Rhode Island battery (two pieces). The men will carry six days' rations, three of which should be cooked. They will also carry knapsacks, haversacks, and blankets, and not less than 60 rounds of ammunition per man, leaving the rest to follow. The campequipage will be left behind, packed up, in charge of 1 commissioned officer from each regiment and 2 enlisted men from each company. You will take two wagons for each foot regiment and one wagon for each mounted company, and six days' forage for animals, if possible. You will see that no females accompany your command, and will give strict orders that none shall follow except regularly appointed laundresses, who will be allowed to accompany the baggage of their respective commands. Only a small quantity of medical supplies need be taken. The medical director has been ordered to furnish ambulances, and the hospital steamer *Cosmopolitan*, with a full supply of medical stores, will, it is expected, follow the command in a few hours. Additional instructions will be given before your command has all embarked.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

## APPENDIX G.

HEADQUARTERS,

*Hilton Head, February 5, 1864—9 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. T. SEYMOUR:

GENERAL: You will start your command so as, if possible, to get the bulk of it to sea before daybreak. Steamers that have tows should be started as soon as they are ready. The whole are to rendezvous at the mouth of the Saint John's River by daybreak day after to-morrow morning, the 7th instant. I expect to be there in person in that time, but should I fail from any cause you are expected to pass the bar on the Sunday morning's high tide, ascend the river to Jacksonville, effect a landing with your command, and push forward a mounted force as far as Baldwin, at the junction of the two railroads. The army transport *Harriet A. Weed* has been ordered forward to buoy out the Saint John's channel, and there await orders. It is not expected that the enemy have any strong

force to oppose your landing. I have sent instructions to Colonel Guss, commanding at Fernandina, to have the railroad tracks on both roads beyond Baldwin torn up in several places after the train comes in to Jacksonville to-morrow, and to keep the tracks obstructed throughout Saturday night. The object of a prompt advance on Baldwin and, if possible, beyond, is to get possession of a train if one has been brought in by the enemy. The enemy are known to have a small force of infantry and a battery between Jacksonville and Baldwin.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—I have assigned you a number of signal officers with organized parties.

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

#### APPENDIX H.

BALDWIN, FLA., *February 9, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief :*

SIR: I have the honor to report that a portion of my command, under Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, convoyed by the gun-boat Norwich, Captain Meriam, ascended the Saint John's River on the 7th instant, and landed at Jacksonville on the afternoon of that day.

The advance, under Col. Guy V. Henry, comprising the Fortieth Massachusetts Infantry, the Independent Battalion Massachusetts Cavalry, under Major Stevens, and Elder's horse battery (B, First Artillery), pushed forward into the interior on the night of the 8th; passed by the enemy, drawn up in line of battle at Camp Finegan, 7 miles from Jacksonville; surprised and captured a battery, 3 miles in rear of the camp, about midnight, and reached this place about sunrise this morning.

At our approach the enemy abandoned and sunk the steamer Saint Mary's and burned 270 bales of cotton a few miles above Jacksonville. We have taken, without loss of a man, over 100 prisoners, 8 pieces of excellent field artillery, in serviceable condition and well supplied with ammunition, and other valuable property to a large amount.

I shall have a train of cars running on the road from Jacksonville in three or four days.

The command will advance to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

#### APPENDIX I.

BALDWIN, *February 11, 1864—7 a. m.*

Major-General GILLMORE :

SIR: Colonel Henry was at Sanderson at 6 o'clock last night. He was opposed at Saint Mary's South Fork by about 150 men (infantry), and had some 25 killed and wounded, inflicting but slight loss

upon the enemy, who disappeared in the woods unmolested. He is pushing on toward Lake City this morning as far as he can with safety. The One hundred and fifteenth is at Saint Mary's South Fork, and the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth New York, Seventh New Hampshire, and two guns are en route from here. We shall be at Sanderson to-night. The stores at Sanderson were destroyed by the enemy. I am convinced that a movement upon Lake City is not, in the present condition of transportation, admissible, and indeed that what has been said of the desire of Florida to come back now is a delusion. The backbone of rebeldom is not here, and Florida will not cast its lot until more important successes elsewhere are assured. I believe I have good ground for this faith, and as much has been done here already, and handsome trophies can be shown of success, I would advise that the force be withdrawn at once from the interior, that Jacksonville alone be held, and that Palatka be also held, which will permit as many Union people, &c., to come in as will join us voluntarily. This movement is in opposition to sound strategy, and is not directed, I understand, by General Halleck, who would doubtless have not advised it. Many more men than you have here now will be required to support its operation, which has not been matured, as should have been done. As far as I can learn yet, Lake City will be defended by more artillery and infantry than I have with me. To be thwarted, defeated, will be a sad termination to a project, brilliant thus far, but for which you could not answer, in case of mishap, to your military superiors, and Stickney and others have misinformed you. The Union cause would have been far more benefited by Jeff. Davis having removed this railroad to Virginia than by any trivial and non-strategic success you may meet, because victories must be decisive elsewhere before Florida can be won back by hearty devotion. By all means, therefore, fall back to Jacksonville, which you are now bound to hold, but can hold with a small force, and use the Saint John's as a base for your operations into the middle of the State by detachments of cavalry, instead of frittering away the infantry of your department in such an operation as this. I believe I am not alone in these views. My movements forward will therefore be entirely dependent upon what I can ascertain to-day of the ability of the force concentrated at Lake City to defend it, and I shall not risk much at that point. An immediate answer is requested, which I shall be glad to receive to-night, and I regret being compelled to go beyond the Saint Mary's South Fork with my infantry, only to return, but shall certainly do so if my information is confirmed by to-day's intelligence from the front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

#### APPENDIX J.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *February 11, 1864.*

General SEYMOUR,  
*Beyond Baldwin :*

Eight companies of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts have been ordered to Baldwin. Don't risk a repulse in advancing on Lake City, but hold Sanderson unless there are reasons for falling back which



I don't know. Please inform me how your command is distributed between here and the South Fork of the Saint Mary's. Please report by telegraph from Baldwin frequently.

GILLMORE,  
*General.*

#### APPENDIX K.

JACKSONVILLE, *February 11, 1864—10 p. m.*

General SEYMOUR

(By courier from Baldwin):

If your advance meets serious opposition concentrate at Sanderson and the South Fork of the Saint Mary's and, if necessary, bring back Henry to the latter place.

GILLMORE,  
*General.*

#### APPENDIX L.

BALDWIN, *February 11, 1864.*

Major-General GILLMORE:

Your telegram just received. Command left for Sanderson. No news from Henry. Tilghman is at Baldwin. Two companies of Tilghman here. Fribley at Pickett's. No negroes came in, or anybody else. I will keep you advised promptly. This is the place to fortify.

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General.*

#### APPENDIX M.

SANDERSON, *February 12, 1864—7 a. m.*

Major-General GILLMORE:

I last night ordered Colonel Henry to fall back to this point. I am destroying all public property here and shall go back to South Fork Saint Mary's as soon as Henry returns. I have not heard from him since last night, when he was 7 miles this side of Lake City. I hope he will be in this morning. I am sending a regiment out to meet him. Sanderson cannot be fortified to advantage. I would advise sending Fribley's regiment to Palatka and to make it a point to hold permanently.

T. SEYMOUR.

#### APPENDIX N.

JACKSONVILLE, *February 12, 1864.*

General SEYMOUR

(By courier from Baldwin):

I want your command at and beyond Baldwin concentrated at Baldwin without delay. I have information of a mounted force that may trouble your right flank by fording the Saint Mary's River. When we landed here they were 80 miles from Baldwin, on the Albany and Gulf Railroad. You should have scouts well out



on your front and right flank. I have sent word to Colonel Tilghman to be on the alert. I think Fribley had better move forward and join you, but you must judge. The locomotive has not arrived yet.

GILLMORE,  
*General.*

#### APPENDIX O.

SANDERSON, *February 13, 1864.*

General GILLMORE :

GENERAL : To leave the South Fork of the Saint Mary's will make it impossible for us to advance again. I have no apprehension of the force you mention. If you can push a part of Guss' force to King's Ferry, supported by gun-boats, there need be no danger from anything but annoyance. Henry will go where I have already mentioned. I would like to see you at Baldwin if you can come up. All goes well here, and there are several operations of importance that can be effected, upon which I should like to consult you.

T. SEYMOUR.

#### APPENDIX P.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*February 17, 1864.*

General GILLMORE :

GENERAL : The excessive and unexpected delays experienced with the locomotive, which will not be ready for two days yet, if at all, have compelled me to remain where my command could be fed ; not enough supplies could be accumulated to permit me to execute my intentions of moving to Suwannee River. But now I propose to go without supplies, even if compelled to retrace my steps to procure them, and with the object of destroying the railroad near the Suwannee that there will be no danger of carrying away any portion of the track. All troops are therefore being moved up to Barber's, and probably by the time you receive this I shall be in motion in advance of that point. That a force may not be brought from Savannah, Ga., to interfere with my movements, it is desirable that a display be made in the Savannah River, and I therefore urge that upon the reception of this such naval forces, transports, sailing vessels, &c., as can be so devoted may rendezvous near Pulaski, and that the iron-clads in Wassaw push up with as much activity as they can exert. I look upon this as of great importance, and shall rely upon it as a demonstration in my favor. There is reason to believe that General Hardee is in Lake City now, possibly in command, and with some force at his disposal, but nothing is visible this side of Sanderson. Saddles, &c., for mounting the Seventh New Hampshire as rapidly as possible are needed here, and I shall send a portion of that regiment to this point as soon as it can be spared subsequent to my advance. I have sent for the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts entire to come to this point ; the Tenth Connecticut (eight companies) to remain at Saint Augustine, two companies to go to Picolata. I shall not occupy Palatka or Magnolia at this moment ; when I do portions of the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts will be sent from Jacksonville. The Fifty-fifth Massachusetts will

remain here for the present or until the Twenty-fourth relieves it. The Second South Carolina and Third U. S. Colored Troops are at Camp Shaw (late Finegan) for instruction and organization. The First North Carolina will be left at Baldwin, detaching three companies to Barber's. Colonel Barton will have the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, and One hundred and fifteenth; Colonel Hawley will have the Seventh Connecticut, Seventh New Hampshire, and Eighth U. S. Colored Troops; Colonel Montgomery the Third United States and the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts; Colonel Henry the cavalry and Elder's battery; Captain Hamilton the artillery. As soon as possible Metcalf's section will be sent back; at present I should like to use it. Colonel Guss is ordered to keep six companies in motion from Fernandina constantly, and at least five days out of seven (every seven) toward and beyond Camp Cooper. Nothing appears to have been done upon the locomotive while at Fernandina, so it is reported to me. The prompt use of a locomotive and of a printing press with this movement were of the most vital importance, and will continue so to be. I trust both will soon be economized.

And I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

#### APPENDIX Q.

#### HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,

*Hilton Head, S. C., February 18, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. T. SEYMOUR,

*Commanding District of Florida, &c. :*

I am just in receipt of your two letters of the 16th and one of the 17th, and am very much surprised at the tone of the latter and the character of your plans as therein stated. You say that by the time your letter of the 17th should reach these headquarters your forces would be in motion beyond Barber's, moving toward the Suwannee River, and that you shall rely on my making a display upon the Savannah River, with "naval forces, transports, sailing vessels," and with iron-clads up from Wassaw, &c., as a demonstration in your favor, which you look upon "as of great importance." All this is upon the presumption that the demonstration can and will be made; although contingent not only upon my power and disposition to do so, but upon the consent of Admiral Dahlgren, with whom I cannot communicate in less than two days. You must have forgotten my last instructions, which were for the present to hold Baldwin and the Saint Mary's South Fork, as your outposts to the westward of Jacksonville, and to occupy Palatka, Magnolia, on the Saint John's. Your project distinctly and avowedly ignores these operations and substitutes a plan which not only involves your command in a distant movement, without provisions, far beyond a point from which you once withdrew on account of precisely the same necessity, but presupposes a simultaneous demonstration of "great importance" to you elsewhere, over which you have no control, and which requires the co-operation of the navy. It is impossible for me to determine what your views are with respect to Florida matters, and this is the reason why I have endeavored to make mine known to you so fully. From your letter of the 11th instant, from

Baldwin (a very singular letter, by the way, and which you did not modify or refer to at all when you afterward saw me), I extract as follows :

I am convinced that a movement upon Lake City is not, in the present condition of transportation, advisable, and, indeed, what has been said of the desire of Florida to come back now is a delusion. \* \* \* This movement is in opposition to sound strategy, &c.

And again :

The Union cause would have been far more benefited by Jeff. Davis having removed this railroad to Virginia than by any trivial and non-strategic success you may meet. \* \* \* By all means, therefore, fall back to Jacksonville.

So much from your letter of the 11th ; and yet, five (six) days later, you proposed to push forward without instructions and without provisions, with a view to destroying the railroad, which you say it would have been better for Jeff. Davis to have got ; and furthermore, you say in your letter of the 16th :

There is but little doubt in my mind that the people of the State, kindly treated by us, will soon be ready to return to the Union ; they are heartily tired of the war.

As may be supposed, I am very much confused by these conflicting views, and am thrown into doubt as to whether my intentions with regard to Florida matters are fully understood by you. I will therefore reannounce them briefly : First, I desire to bring Florida into the Union under the President's proclamation of December 8, 1863 ; as accessory to the above, I desire, second, to revive the trade on the Saint John's River ; third, to recruit my colored regiments and organize a regiment of Florida white troops ; fourth, to cut off in part the enemy's supplies drawn from Florida. After you had withdrawn your advance, it was arranged between us, at a personal interview, that the places to be permanently held for the present would be the south prong of the Saint Mary's, Baldwin, Jacksonville, Magnolia, and Palatka, and that Henry's mounted force should be kept moving as circumstances might justify or require. This is my plan of present operations. A raid to tear up the railroad west of Lake City will be of service, but I have no intention to occupy now that part of the State.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

#### APPENDIX R.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,  
*Chief of Staff :*

GENERAL : I am in receipt of a communication from the major-general commanding the department, of the 18th instant, but I do not think it advisable at present to enter fully into a consideration of the points therein referred to, so much have the events of the last few days modified the condition of affairs under my command.

On the morning of February 20, I moved from Barber's, with all the disposable force at my control, with the intention of meeting the



enemy (supposed to be from 4,000 to 5,000 strong, according to the best information I could obtain) at or near Lake City, and of then pushing the mounted force to the Suwannee River, to destroy if possible the railroad bridge at that stream. On the afternoon of the 20th, within 3 miles of Olustee, I came upon the enemy, intrenched, and after a severe action decided to retire, leaving upon the field five guns, and not a few dead and wounded. Of course the object of the movement was entirely frustrated, and from all that I could learn the enemy was in largely superior force and was intending to advance upon the position at Barber's, and was only delayed by the belief that this movement of mine was in progress. And so greatly superior in force is the enemy that the position at Barber's against him would be entirely insecure, as the left flank could be readily turned so that an action would have been with our backs on the Saint Mary's. This post is accordingly evacuated. The same objections apply to Baldwin with equal strength. Everything was removed from that place, and Colonel Henry was directed to remain as a rear guard, and he has doubtless fallen back to-night to McGirt's Creek. The infantry is behind Six-Mile Creek, on the King's road, and the Cedar Creek, on the Lake City road. How long it will remain there depends upon the movement of the enemy and my judgment as to the necessity of a less extensive and more easily defended position.

In reply, partly, to the letter from the major-general commanding, of the 18th, I must add that my movements have been entirely and fully in accordance with my views of the designs expressed to me by him, modified as I have a right to modify them by a personal presence and command. I opposed a permanent occupation of Lake City, as the major-general desired, because it could not be supplied with the (to this movement) utterly worthless railroad transportation at my command, and I therefore recommended the permanent holding of the South Fork of the Saint Mary's; but, of course, I expected to advance from this last point whenever and wherever it might seem proper, and as the provisions were accumulated at Barber's for the sufficient time, I saw no reason why I should not carry out the major-general's expressed desire—that is, to push on to the Suwannee, and, by cutting that bridge, hinder any strong occupation of West Florida by the enemy. I have stated the result. I did not consider that I was committing any violation of the general plan of operations, nor do I believe so now. If the troops are under my command and are expected to be active against the enemy, I presume the major-general commanding has sufficient confidence in my judgment to leave such points somewhat to my decision. If I am in error I shall doubtless be informed. I must also add that, under the present aspect of affairs, I do not consider it proper to occupy Magnolia or Palatka, which modification of the plan agreed upon between Major-General Gillmore and myself will, I trust, be approved by him. And there are not a few of the details of the instructions of February 19, relative to the construction of defensive works at the South Fork of the Saint Mary's, at Baldwin, and at Jacksonville, that I think are incorrect, or rather should be modified, and I earnestly request that some latitude may be allowed me in such matters, and that I be not so bound by instructions concerning matters that can be perfectly originated and carried out here, by the proper officers, that I must be placed in the unpleasant position of disobeying them outright, or of doing what my experience and judg-



ment tell me clearly is not to be approved by the posture of affairs. And I am sure that I desire no more than is naturally to be claimed by any officer of my rank and experience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General.*

#### APPENDIX S.

##### HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, *Jacksonville, Fla., March 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on February 20, at 6 a. m., I left my position on the South Fork of the Saint Mary's (Barber's plantation) with the intention of advancing on Lake City, and, if successful, of destroying the railroad communication between East and West Florida at the Suwannee River, such being the general plan of operations upon which the occupation and control of East Florida had been founded. The command consisted of Col. G. V. Henry's mounted brigade (two squadrons Independent Battalion Massachusetts Cavalry, Major Stevens; the Fortieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, and Elder's Horse Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, four guns), Col. J. R. Hawley's brigade (Seventh Connecticut, Captain Skinner; Seventh New Hampshire, Col. J. C. Abbott; Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, Col. C. W. Fribley), Col. W. B. Barton's brigade (Forty-seventh New York, Col. H. Moore; Forty-eighth New York, Maj. W. B. Coan; One hundred and fifteenth New York, Col. S. Sammon), and Colonel Montgomery's brigade (Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, Col. E. N. Hallowell; First North Carolina Volunteers, Lieut. Col. W. N. Reed), with Hamilton's Light Battery E, Third U. S. Artillery, six guns, and Langdon's Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, six guns (comprising a section of James' Rhode Island Battery, under Lieutenant Metcalf). The entire force near 5,500 officers and men and sixteen guns.

Accurate information, it was believed, as to the enemy's strength had been obtained, and the excellent character of the troops under my command forbade any doubt as to the propriety of a conflict on equal terms. After a march of 15 miles, and about 3 p. m., Colonel Henry's cavalry came upon the enemy's infantry pickets somewhat to the east of Olustee. A couple of companies from the Seventh Connecticut soon drove them back upon their supports, which opened fire. Captain Elder felt them with his guns, the remainder of the Seventh Connecticut was handsomely deployed forward, and under this display the enemy's position in line of battle was clearly developed. The ground was favorable for the movement of troops, being firm and even, and although covered with pine timber was devoid of underbrush. My intention was to engage the enemy in front with the artillery, supported by a regiment on either flank, while a brigade should be moved to the right so as to fall upon the prolongation of his line. The Seventh New Hampshire was accordingly thrown forward to the right, and the Eighth U. S. Colored Troops to the left, and Hamilton's and Langdon's batteries were brought up alongside of Elder's. The Seventh Connecticut had been energetically and successfully engaged in its work of driving in the enemy's skirmishers; it was now withdrawn from before our infantry. The Seventh New Hampshire, an old regiment, armed in part with the Spencer rifle, had scarcely deployed and felt the

enemy's fire before it broke in confusion, and the most strenuous efforts of Colonel Hawley and its own colonel, assisted by Lieutenant-Colonel Hall, of my staff, could not reform or rally it, and this regiment counted as nothing during the remainder of the engagement. The Eighth U. S. Colored Troops formed promptly in position, lead by the gallant young Fribley, but he soon fell, and these men also, losing the stimulus of his command, gave way in disorder. The enemy closed up after these yielding regiments, and brought a close fire upon the artillery, which, nevertheless, was worked by its admirable officers with perfect tenacity and coolness. An unremitting fire was maintained upon the enemy's infantry, with the very best effect. Barton's brigade, close at hand, was now formed on the ground occupied by the Seventh New Hampshire, and the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts had replaced the Eighth U. S. Colored Troops and a rapid fire was opened, the influence of which was soon visible. The left of the enemy's line was forced backward, and in the hope of still effecting my original intention, the First North Carolina was brought up to the right of Barton's brigade by Lieutenant-Colonel Reed in the most brilliant manner. The entire force was now hotly engaged save the cavalry. Colonel Henry watched the flanks and prevented on the left a movement of the enemy's cavalry that threatened trouble. But the disparity in numbers was too great and the defense too obstinate to permit of decisive results. The struggle continued until dusk, and ended with cheers of defiance, and finding it hopeless, under existing circumstances, to advance farther, the troops were withdrawn in perfect order to Sanderson and then to the Saint Mary's, Colonel Henry's cavalry, supported by the Seventh Connecticut, serving as rear guard. From loss of horses alone, I was compelled to leave six guns on the field, and a small portion of the badly wounded were left in the power of the enemy from insufficient means to remove them.

The losses had been heavy, particularly among superior officers. Colonel Fribley, a young man of high promise, had died in the full performance of his duty, nobly encouraging his men to theirs. Lieutenant-Colonel Reed was mortally wounded while managing his regiment with conspicuous skill, and his major (Bogle) was severely hurt. Colonel Moore, of the Forty-seventh, and Colonel Sammon, One hundred and fifteenth New York, were both wounded, and Colonel Sammon, although badly disabled, remained with his command until it left the field. Captain Vandever, of the One hundred and fifteenth New York, an officer justly held in high esteem, lost his life—one of the greatest misfortunes of the day.

A losing battle receives little praise, but officers and men, nevertheless, often display soldierly qualities far beyond those that are brought out by success. The conduct of Colonel Barton's brigade was glorious, and I cannot too highly commend the pertinacity with which it held to its work. Its commander deserves greatly. Colonels Hawley and Montgomery, also commanding brigades, conducted their troops with great personal intelligence and valor. Besides Colonels Moore and Sammon should be mentioned Major Coan, Forty-eighth New York; Captain Skinner, Seventh Connecticut, and Colonel Hallowell, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, as meriting more than usual praise for their excellent conduct. Colonel Henry kept his cavalry in constant activity, watching and neutralizing that of the enemy, and by important and gallant

services before and after, as well as during the battle, was eminently useful. I desire to recommend him to you as a highly deserving officer. The artillery, as might have been expected, performed its part with great honor; guns were never better served, or under more trying circumstances. Exposed greatly to sharpshooters this force suffered correspondingly. Captain Hamilton (chief of artillery), badly wounded, refused to quit the field, and with admirable coolness and fortitude continued his duties, and I must place on record here that this officer, well known to us as one of the most deserving and valuable of our service, should, as a mere act of justice, be advanced to a brigadier-generalship. Captains Langdon and Elder also deserve the most decided approbation. Lieutenants Myrick, Third Artillery, and McCrea, First Artillery, severely wounded, exhibited courage and devotion of the highest order. The officers of my staff performed their duties to my unqualified satisfaction. Lieutenant-Colonel Hall, provost-marshal-general of the department, was very efficient, and I am much indebted to him and to Major Eddy, Forty-eighth New York, assistant inspector-general, for constant and valuable aid. Lieutenant Michie, U. S. Engineers, was always ready, always brave, always skillful. My personal aides, Lieut. C. N. Jackson and Lieutenant Bradshaw, were conspicuously active, and both are to be commended for energy and courage. Captain Dana, of the Signal Corps, was of great assistance to me, and to Surgeon Majer, for careful attention to his duties as medical director, on behalf of the wounded, I desire to express especial gratitude. To the reports of subordinate commanders, herewith inclosed, I must necessarily refer for mention of my other gallant officers whose conduct should not be overlooked or forgotten.

The colored troops behaved creditably—the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts and First North Carolina like veterans. It was not in their conduct that can be found the chief cause of failure, but in the unanticipated yielding of a white regiment from which there was every reason to expect noble service, and at a moment when everything depended upon its firmness. The misfortune arose, doubtless, from this regiment having lately been filled with conscripts and substitutes, of a very inferior class. The issue, so finely drawn that the battle was nearly equal to its very close, the enemy's losses as heavy as my own, ground firmly held to the last, the admirable temper of the command all indicate that but for the disparity arising from the causes indicated, this might fairly have been a victory.

Respectfully, general, your most obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,

*Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

*Hilton Head, S. C., November 1, 1865.*

In the foregoing report of Brigadier-General Seymour he says he moved forward on February 20—

With the intention of advancing on Lake City, and, if successful, of destroying the railroad communications between East and West Florida at the Suwannee River, such being the general plan of operations upon which the occupation and control of East Florida had been founded.



In reference to the above statement I will say that General Seymour was never intrusted, and it never was my intention to intrust him with the execution of any general plan in Florida. I confided to him the objects I had in view in occupying East Florida, and the salient features of the plan by which I proposed to secure those objects. But he was never authorized to advance beyond the South Fork of the Saint Mary's River in my absence. On the contrary, he had plain and explicit instructions with regard to what was expected and required of him, and the ill-judged advance beyond the South Fork of the Saint Mary's River was in direct disregard of those instructions, and the disastrous battle of Olustee its legitimate fruit. General Seymour says, "But the disparity in numbers was too great, and the defense too obstinate to permit of decisive results" at the battle of Olustee. We now know since the close of the war that there was no "disparity in numbers," and we knew at the time that the "results" were a "decisive" defeat upon the field of battle and the frustration—as well by loss of men as by loss of prestige—of a well and carefully digested plan of campaign. General Finegan, who was in command of the enemy's forces, told two members of my staff (Capt. D. S. Leslie, One hundred and fourth U. S. Colored Troops, and Capt. Henry Seton, Fifty-fourth New York) that he had only about 5,000 men at that battle. General Seymour had 5,500 men. Our losses were 1,800 men in killed, wounded, and missing, 39 horses, and 6 pieces of artillery. Indeed, our forces appear to have been surprised into fighting, or attempting to fight, an offensive battle, in which the component parts of the command were beaten in detail. The enemy did not fight behind intrenchments or any kind of defenses.

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.*

ADDENDA.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., February 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief, U. S. Army:*

GENERAL: The enemy have thrown so large a force into Florida that I judge it to be inexpedient to attempt to do more at the present time than hold the line of the Saint John's River. The presence of so large a force as General Seymour represents the enemy to have in his front shows the importance he attaches to Florida as a source of supply.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General.*

—  
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I have news from Jacksonville up to the evening of the 24th. The enemy at that time was at Baldwin. General Seymour has been re-enforced and can take care of himself. From the



Olustee fight the number of killed, severely wounded, and missing will reach as high as 700. There are several hundred slightly wounded. I have had no official returns yet, but will forward them when obtained.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

WASHINGTON, *March 3, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief, U. S. Army:*

SIR: I am instructed by the Joint Committee on the Conduct and Expenditures of the War to forward to you a copy of a resolution passed by the Senate yesterday (the copy is inclosed herewith), and to request that you will forward to this committee, as soon as convenient, such information as there may be in your possession upon the subject-matter of the resolution.

I remain, yours, respectfully,

B. F. WADE,  
*Chairman, &c.*

[Inclosure.]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*March 2, 1864.*

On motion by Mr. Hendricks:

*Resolved*, That the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War be directed to inquire into the causes of and circumstances attending the recent military expedition into Florida, with whom the expedition originated, for what purposes it was undertaken, and what were its results; and that the committee be instructed to report at as early a day as practicable.

J. W. FORNEY,  
*Secretary.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington, D. C., April 5, 1864.*

SIR: In reply to your inquiry for information in respect to the recent military expedition in Florida, I have the honor to report that on the 15th day of December, 1863, in a dispatch addressed to the General-in-Chief, Major-General Gillmore submitted the following proposition:

With the forces now at my disposal, I would respectfully suggest one of two operations, viz:

\* \* \* \* \*

Second. Operate in Florida and recover all the most valuable portion of that State, cut off a rich source of the enemy's supplies, and increase the number of my colored troops. I will not go into detail.

On the 22d of December, the General-in-Chief replied:

I am authorized by the Secretary of War to say that you are at liberty to undertake such operations in your department as you may deem best, making secure the positions you already hold in front of Charleston.

On the 14th of January, 1864, General Gillmore, in a confidential dispatch of that date, informed the General-in-Chief :\*

On the 15th of January, in a confidential letter of that date to the Secretary of War, in relation to colored troops, General Gillmore said :†

On the 22d of January, the General-in-Chief replied as follows :‡

On the 31st of January, in a dispatch of that date to the General-in-Chief, Major-General Gillmore submitted the following reply :§

On the 5th of February, General Gillmore communicated to the General-in-Chief that he would—

Start for Florida this evening with a force under Brigadier-General Seymour, composed of infantry, cavalry, and artillery.

On the 9th of February, General Gillmore communicated to General Halleck the result of his operations down to that date, as follows :||

And again, on the 13th of February, in the following communication :

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.,  
February 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief :*

SIR: I beg leave to state that the military operations in this State that may be necessary to further the objects for which I came here, as set forth in a former letter to you, promise to be of no great magnitude.

General Seymour's advance has been within 4 miles of Lake City; but as his instructions were not to risk a repulse, or make an attack when there was a prospect of incurring much loss, he has taken up a position at Baldwin, the junction of the railroad from Jacksonville with the one from Fernandina. He holds also the crossing of the Saint Mary's South Fork, about 12 miles west of Baldwin.

I intend to construct small works, capable of resisting a *coup de main*, at Jacksonville, Baldwin, Palatka, and perhaps one or two other important points, so strong that 200 or 300 men will be sufficient at each point. Twenty-five hundred men, in addition to the two regiments that have been permanently stationed in this State (one at Saint Augustine and one at Fernandina), ought to be ample in Florida.

The artillery captured here will suffice for such defensive works as may be deemed necessary.

I desire to see the lumber and turpentine trade on the Saint John's River revived by loyal men, and for that purpose, and to give assurance that our occupation of this river is intended to be permanent, I have written to the Secretary of the Treasury recommending that the port of Jacksonville be declared open. The communication is herewith inclosed. I shall return to Hilton Head to-morrow, leaving General Seymour in command in Florida for the present.

Palatka will be occupied by our forces in a day or two.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General.*

FEBRUARY 14.

P. S.—I open this letter to add that General Seymour was at Sanderson yesterday. I have dispatched a mounted force to Gainesville, on the Fernandina and Cedar Keys Road, to try and capture a train of cars. I inclose a printed circular for your information, from the chief commissary C. S. Army.

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

\* See Appendix B, p. 278.

† See Appendix C, p. 278.

‡ See Appendix D, p. 279.

§ See Appendix E, p. 279.

|| See Appendix H, p. 281.

On the 22d of February, General Gillmore communicated to the General-in-Chief the result of the battle of Olustee, so far as it was then known :

HILTON HEAD, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief :*

GENERAL : I have the honor to report that I am in receipt of dispatches from my chief of staff, Brigadier-General Turner, at Jacksonville, and from Brigadier-General Seymour, at Baldwin, up to yesterday. From these I learn that General Seymour had a spirited fight with the enemy on the 20th at Olustee. From Capt. John Hamilton, U. S. Artillery, who has just arrived here from the scene of action (slightly wounded in the arm), I learn that General Seymour made the attack ; that it was soon ascertained that the enemy was present in superior force, and that after an engagement, lasting between two and three hours, our forces withdrew from the fight in good order.

The loss on both sides was quite severe. Some of our wounded fell in the hands of the enemy. He also got five pieces of artillery as an offset to the eight pieces which he lost when we first advanced.

Yesterday Seymour was at Baldwin, slowly retiring and sending his wounded to Jacksonville.

General Turner writes yesterday that the wounded, so far as he can learn, are all in the cars coming in. Locomotive just put in order. I inclose herewith the last dispatch that he had received from General Seymour. The force before him was from General Johnston's army. Captain Hamilton thinks our loss in killed, wounded, and missing will be as high as 600 or 800.

The medical officers inform me that all the wounds, with very few exceptions, were made by small-arms, and that a very large proportion of them were slight. Colonel Fribley, Eighth United States (colored), was killed.

In a few days I will furnish you with copies of instructions under which General Seymour was acting.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—Olustee is about 50 miles west of Jacksonville.

On the 7th of March, General Gillmore communicated his official report, a copy of which is herewith submitted.\*

The foregoing comprises all the information in the possession of this Department in relation to the military operations in Florida referred to in your note. But it may be proper to add that the military operations projected by General Gillmore, being communicated to the President, they presented in his judgment a favorable occasion for carrying into effect the measures of amnesty declared in his annual message. With that view his private secretary was sent to General Gillmore, with the forms, registers, and certificates prepared for persons returning to their allegiance in the loyal States, and with instructions, the nature of which is exhibited in the following letter† of the President to General Gillmore, the general's reply, and the order, No. 16, issued by General Gillmore, "in pursuance of these instructions."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C.*

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES :

DEAR SIR : I have the honor to report that the blank books and other blanks, to be used in the initiatory steps for the restoration of the State of Florida to her loyalty, have been received by Major Hay, and he has been ordered to enter upon the special duties assigned to him without delay.

\* See p. 276.

† See Appendix A, p. 278.

From the general tenor of your instructions to me, contained in the letter brought by Major Hay, and from conversations with that officer, I am led to the impression that no additional directions will be given to me upon this subject, and that I am expected to initiate, guide, and control such measures as may be necessary under the Presidential proclamation of December 8, 1863, to restore the State of Florida to its allegiance.

The plan now being pursued by General Banks in Louisiana impresses me very favorably, and can doubtless in its principal features be both easily and speedily applied in Florida.

If there are any further instructions for me I respectfully request that they may be communicated to me as early as possible.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 16. }

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., January 31, 1864.*

In accordance with the provisions of the Presidential proclamation of pardon and amnesty, given at Washington on the 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1863, and in pursuance of instructions received from the President of the United States, Maj. John Hay, assistant adjutant-general, will proceed to Fernandina, Fla., and other convenient points in that State, for the purpose of extending to the citizens of the State of Florida an opportunity to avail themselves of the benefits of that proclamation by offering for their signature the oath of allegiance therein prescribed, and by issuing to all those subscribing to said oath certificates entitling them to the benefits of the proclamation.

Fugitive citizens of the State of Florida within the limits of this department will have an opportunity to subscribe to the same oath and secure certificates in the office of the post commander at Hilton Head, S. C.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No other order or instructions than the foregoing in relation to the subject of your inquiry are on file in this Department or within my knowledge.

Your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON,  
*Secretary of War.*

No. 2.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Truman Seymour, U. S. Army, Commanding District of Florida.\**

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 17, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, with the advance of the forces under my command, Jacksonville was occupied on the 7th instant, opposed by only a picket of the enemy, which fired upon the General Hunter and mortally wounded 1 man on that transport. A company of the Massachusetts Independent Battalion of Cavalry, under Captain Morrill, disembarked with great promptness, and pursued the fragments of this picket for several miles.

On the 8th instant, at 4 p. m., believing that the enemy would make a stand with some force of cavalry and artillery, known to be at Camp Finegan, 8 miles from this place, the command was moved forward, Col. G. V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts, commanding

\* See also Appendices I, L, M, R. and S, pp. 281, 283, 286, 288.



the mounted force; Major Stevens' battalion Massachusetts Cavalry, and the Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, and Captain Elder's battery, First Artillery, forming the extreme right, Colonel Barton's brigade the center, and Colonel Hawley's the left.

Colonel Henry came first in contact with the enemy's line of battle at Camp Finegan, about 8 o'clock, and rode it down, pursuing for several miles and capturing 5 field guns, with caissons, battery wagon, and forge complete, and 3 flags. In the camp was found a considerable quantity of transportation material, of clothing, and of camp equipage.

Colonel Henry was directed to advance immediately to Baldwin, at the intersection of the Florida and Central Railroads, which was reached about 6 a. m. on February 9. One field gun with caisson was captured here, 106 bales of cotton, 83 barrels of turpentine, several cars, and quantities of provisions, forage, and supplies, valued in all at about \$500,000. At Johnson's Station over a thousand barrels of rosin fell into our hands.

Continuing to advance, at the South Fork of the Saint Mary's, Barber's plantation, the passage across the stream was disputed by two companies of cavalry, dismounted, and occupying a very strong position, but it was energetically forced by Colonel Henry, with a loss of 3 killed and 10 wounded, and a greater loss to the enemy, who was completely disorganized. Arriving at Sanderson, 10 miles beyond Barber's, it was found that the enemy had fired a storehouse filled with forage, and a large amount of rosin and turpentine was also destroyed. Pursuing vigorously toward Lake City a strong force of the enemy was found in position, with which an hour's severe skirmishing was had, but infantry coming to the attack of Colonel Henry, he withdrew and encamped a few miles distant.

The infantry column was, of course, compelled to move more slowly, and advanced to Sanderson, 45 miles from Jacksonville, when it found itself so short of subsistence and transportation that it could not advance, and Colonel Henry was ordered to return.

I cannot commend too highly the brilliant success of this advance, for which great credit is due to Colonel Henry and his command, and I earnestly recommend him to your attention as a most deserving and energetic officer.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

T. SEYMOUR,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 17, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have to report that on the 13th instant a command of Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers, consisting of details from companies C, G, and H, under Capt. G. E. Marshall, of that regiment, left Sanderson for Gainesville, Fla., which point was reached on the morning of the 14th. Immense stores of cotton, of turpentine and rosin, sugar, tobacco, and supplies of all kinds, were captured.

In accordance with instructions given to Captain Marshall, no private property was destroyed or molested. The public subsistence stores were distributed among the inhabitants, who were suffering

for want of them. Probably \$1,000,000 worth of property fell into our hands, but it could not be removed and it was not considered advisable to destroy it.

On the evening of the 14th, Captain Marshall's force, being posted behind bales of cotton, in a favorable position, was attacked by two companies of cavalry under Captain Dickison, who were repulsed with loss of several men and of the majority of their horses.

Gainesville was held by this small force for fifty-six hours, and Captain Marshall, having accomplished his mission, returned to this place this morning, the 17th.

The excellent example of courage and good conduct shown by this command has had the best possible effect in correcting the misrepresentations that have been inculcated by the enemy, and will greatly stimulate the action of those who are friendly to us.

Captain Marshall has conducted himself in the noblest manner, and he and his men are worthy of my highest commendation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff.*

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
No. 5. } *Jacksonville, Fla., February 17, 1864.*

The brigadier-general commanding heartily congratulates his command on the brilliant success which has attended all their movements thus far into Florida. Three flags, 8 guns, with caissons, battery wagons, and forge, many wagons and horses, and much subsistence stores and clothing, besides large amounts of cotton, turpentine, and rosin, property valued at over \$1,500,000, is the fruit of their success.

To Col. G. V. Henry and his command, the battalion of Massachusetts Cavalry, under Major Stevens; the Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, and Captain Elder, First U. S. Artillery, and his battery, this achievement is principally due; and the brigadier-general commanding especially desires to praise Capt. George E. Marshall, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, and his small command of 50 men, who captured and held Gainesville for fifty-six hours, receiving and repulsing an attack from more than double their numbers, and after fulfilling his mission successfully returning to the designated place of rendezvous.

These deeds will be among those remembered by us with the greatest pleasure and honor, and the command may emulate, but can hardly expect to surpass them.

By order of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour :

R. M. HALL,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
No. 13. } *Jacksonville, Fla., March 10, 1864.*

The brigadier-general commanding recurs with great satisfaction to the conduct of his troops in their late battle, and desires to convey to them in the most public manner his full appreciation of their steadfast courage on that well-contested field.

Against superior numbers, holding a position chosen by themselves, you were all but successful. For four hours you stood face to face with the enemy, and when the battle ended—and it ceased only with night—you sent him cheers of defiance.

In your repulse there was perhaps misfortune, but neither disaster nor disgrace, and every officer and soldier may forever remember with just pride that he fought at Olustee.

By order of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour :

R. M. HALL,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*Return of casualties in the engagement near Olustee, Fla., February 20, 1864, commanded by Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, U. S. Volunteers.*

Regiments.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total casualties.				Horses killed.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.	Aggregate each brigade.	
Col. William B. Barton's brigade :											
115th New York Volunteers .....	2	27	4	204	1	58	7	289	296		
47th New York Volunteers .....	3	27	4	193		86	7	306	313		
48th New York Volunteers .....	1	16	1	153		44	2	213	215		
										824	
Col. Joseph R. Hawley's brigade :											
7th Connecticut Volunteers .....	1	4		42		22	1	68	69		
7th New Hampshire Volunteers .....	1	16	7	64		120	8	200	208		
8th U. S. Colored Troops. ....	1	48	8	180	1	72	10	300	310		
										587	
Col. J. Montgomery's command :											
1st North Carolina Volunteers (colored) .....	2	20	8	123		77	10	230	230		
54th Massachusetts Volunteers .....		13	3	62		8	3	83	86		
										316	
Col. Guy V. Henry's command :											
40th Massachusetts Mounted Infantry .....		2	1	28		5	1	35	36		34
Battery B, 1st U. S. Horse Artillery .....		3	1	12			1	15	16		12
Independent Battalion Massachusetts Cavalry. ....				5				5	5		9
										57	
Capt. John Hamilton's command :											
Battery E, 3d U. S. Artillery a .....		11	4	18		6	4	35	39		34
Battery M, 1st U. S. Artillery .....		4	1	21		6	1	31	32		28
Battery C, 3d Rhode Island Artillery .....		1		5				6	6	77	3
Total .....	11	192	42	1,110	2	504	55	1,806	1,861	1,861	120

a Detachment Enfants Perdus attached.

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*  
HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 25, 1864.*

No. 3.

*Report of Surg. Adolph Majer, U. S. Army, of engagement at Olustee.*

OFFICE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, DIST. OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 24, 1864.*

SIR : It becomes my duty to report to-day the result of the engagement between our forces (under the command of Brig. Gen. T. Sey-



mour) and the enemy, occurring at a place known as Olustee, Fla., and distant from Jacksonville some 45 or 50 miles in a westerly direction, under the following circumstances :

On the evening of February 19, the general commanding ordered his command to be in readiness, with several days' cooked rations, for a forward movement from Barber's Station, 32 miles from Jacksonville, on the Florida Central Railroad.

At daybreak, February 20, the command took its line of march on the road to Sanderson, with its cavalry brigade and Elder's battery (under the command of Colonel Henry) in the advance. Passing Sanderson, the general commanding was informed that we should meet the enemy in force (as the information would have it, 15,000 strong) some miles this side of Lake City ; but no reliance was placed on such dubious information in regard to strength as well as position. About 5 miles farther on our advance reported some 60 or 70 skirmishers of the enemy falling slowly back, on the north side of the railroad, toward Lake City. A short distance from that point our cavalry force, together with one company of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, reported that it was suspected that the enemy was directly in front. The general commanding gave the order to halt and directed shells to be thrown through the pine barren as feelers. Hardly had the second shell departed when a compliment in the form of solid shot fell directly in front of the staff, a second one following closely on the first, and a third one passing in close proximity over our heads. No time was to be lost to bring our guns into battery, and to throw companies of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers out as skirmishers on our right. The infantry line of battle was in cool promptness formed of the brigades, commanded, respectively, by Colonels Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, and Montgomery, Second South Carolina Volunteers. Soon our artillery fire became hotter and hotter and the musketry incessant.

Looking about for a convenient ambulance depot, I rode on our right toward a couple of log houses, the only ones within miles, but found on arriving that these houses were so much exposed that while inspecting them I was in imminent danger in the midst of heavy and light missiles ; and while the topographical condition hardly offered a slight undulation of soil, there was no protection for a depot than the even extension of the pine barrens. About 200 yards in the rear of our left, observing a cluster of pine trees, I directed our ambulances (twelve in number) to be drawn up in line, the surgeons preparing their instruments and appliances, to be in readiness. While the roar of artillery and the musketry fire continued without intermission, our wounded men began to arrive, part walking, some on litters, and others in open ambulance wagons, as it were, first in single drops, then trickling, after a while in a steady stream, increasing from a single row to a double and treble, and finally into a mass. In a half hour from the commencement, stray shots passing through the tall pines, and, breaking them off at the trunk like canes, admonished us to remove the depot farther to the rear, when within 1 mile we drew our ambulances up behind a small stream and guarded in front by miry ground, thus securing a sufficiency of water, yet not of suitable protection against missiles from rifled guns. For three hours, without a second's intermission, had the battle been raging, when we heard from the front three lusty cheers and the firing ceased abruptly. Our troops fell back



about 1 mile, and I received an order to bring our wounded as far to the rear as we could reach with our limited transportation. Ambulances, caissons, army wagons, litters, single horses, carts, in short, every conceivable mode of carrying was made use of to secure the large number of our wounded, and with a readiness which deserves high commendation did every one busy himself to execute the order. There was no depression of spirits manifested, and the morale of the command expressed the brave determination in the words, "We will give it back to them."

Our troops fell back to Barber's Station under the protection of our cavalry brigade, which, during the battle, was quietly drawn up in the rear of our right and left. While passing Sanderson I sent the following telegrams:

*Surgeon in charge of field hospital at Barber's Station:*

A large number of wounded. Prepare coffee, tea, and beef soup:

Post Surgeon SMITH,

*Jacksonville:*

Send immediately a train of cars with bales of hay, lint, bandages, and stimulants. Call on Sanitary Commission.

DR. A. MAJER.

We reached Barber's Station at 12 midnight, and while, unhappily, some 40 cases of wounded had to be left at the ambulance depot near the battle-field under the charge of Asst. Surg. C. A. Devendorf, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, and 23 more at Sanderson (badly wounded), two companies of cavalry were dismounted, thus saving an addition of 80 men. We had now to take care of and forward by cars and wagons some 860 wounded, 215 of which were at once delivered to the hospital ship *Cosmopolitan*, awaiting at the wharf at Jacksonville. A list of this first shipment will be forwarded by the surgeon in charge of that steamer. A list of the wounded admitted to hospital at Jacksonville from the surgeon in charge (William A. Smith, Forty-seventh New York Volunteers), I have the honor to transmit, together with a list\* of all the casualties, as gathered from the surgeons in charge of brigades.

I now beg leave to add the following remarks: The expedition into Florida and its occupation we believe to be not a sanguinary one. No one expected, at least, a resistance so bold and stubborn, because no concentration by the enemy of 12,000 or 15,000 men was deemed possible; and our hospital preparations at the post, as well as in the field, had up to the time of the engagement remained a mere consolidated regimental affair in supplies. When under these circumstances the comparatively large number of cases have been well cared for, I feel it to be my duty to be thankful to the aid and assistance of the ever-ready and assiduous agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, Mr. A. B. Day, and to the untiring exertions of our worthy colleague, Surg. William A. Smith, in charge of hospital. Under no ordinary circumstances should I have departed from the rule of not making requisition on the commission, and unless such an emergency had arisen in which our wants were urgent and large. Again, the very limited number of ambulances could not, inside the department, have been increased; therefore, transportation on army wagons and caissons could not well have been avoided; yet, in spite of these deficiencies, will any contribution to the surgical history of the

\* Embodied in table, p. 298.

war speak but favorably of the manner in which the medical officers bore themselves, to the credit of their profession and administration? True, such could not have been the case were the character of the wounds in the majority grave; but, happily, the number of slight cases is large, showing for the most part wounds of the lower extremities, with but few cases of operations. Five hundred at least will be able for duty in less than four weeks, and our loss therefore will be merely temporary. We have to regret the many casualties among officers, and the fact that we could not recover all our wounded, in spite of an effort made to do so, by requesting this privilege under a flag of truce. I made this proposition to the general commanding, and while he entertained the opinion that they ought to be well taken care of by the enemy, the general finally yielded to the request, which unfortunately has been refused by our opponents. Meanwhile, the number of our wounded retained at this post has been decreased to 165 by transfer of cases by hospital ship Cosmopolitan and transport steamers Dictator and Delaware, the hospital steamer making two trips within one week to Hilton Head and Beaufort, S. C.

It is, perhaps, not out of place to recommend that no general hospitals, above those already existing, be established, and especially that the general hospital at Jacksonville may merely be conducted as a receiving depot, whence to forward to the above hospitals, adding thereto Saint Augustine, Fla. The remoteness from the main depot of supplies of the department, with all its annoying and delaying circumstances, and the readiness with which the returning empty transports can be employed for transportation of sick and wounded, prompts me to come to this conclusion; and while the interior of Florida, in regard to healthfulness among a large command, is yet to be tested, there presents itself at the convalescent hospital at Saint Augustine a hospital arrangement which, when completed, will meet all demands of sanitary law, with no heavy expenses. Should the army of occupation advance toward Middle Florida, there will be an easy and quick communication with the delightful seaside of the old Spanish colony.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADOLPH MAJER,

*Surg., U. S. Vols., Chief Medical Officer, Dist. of Fla.*

Surg. EBEN SWIFT,

*Medical Director.*

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No. 4.

*Report of Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Olustee.*

HEADQUARTERS BARTON'S BRIGADE,

*Jacksonville, Fla., February 27, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the engagement of the 20th instant, 8 miles beyond Sanderson, near Olustee Lake:

When the enemy's pickets were first encountered, which was at 2 p. m. precisely, my brigade was second in the general column, and

the firing had continued not to exceed twenty minutes when I was ordered to move forward. This I did in line of battle, taking a position on the right of the line (just vacated by the retreat of two regiments of another brigade), and at once became hotly engaged. The enemy's fire was both of musketry and artillery, and was extremely intense and galling.

It was soon apparent that we were greatly outnumbered, and were facing a foe well skilled in taking advantage of every cover, and disposed to turn to the best account his superior numbers and position. His fire was rapid, accurate, and well sustained, and for a long time we were sorely pressed, but the indomitable and unflinching courage of my men and officers at length prevailed, and after nearly four hours of the hardest fighting, the enemy's left was forced back, and he was content to permit us to retire; which we did, by direction of the commanding general, between 6 and 7 o'clock, in admirable order, notwithstanding our heavy losses, and with not a single round of ammunition remaining. At this time I was charged by Brigadier-General Seymour with the conduct of the retreat of all the forces.

We at first retired by alternate battalions, covered by the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, deployed as skirmishers, in our rear, they, in turn, being covered by the cavalry, mounted infantry, and Elder's Horse Battery B, [First] U. S. Artillery, all under Col. G. V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry. When at a sufficient distance from the enemy, the troops were moved in brigades by the flank on parallel lines, and kept well in hand ready for such formations as defense from any attack might require. The enemy were, however, too badly punished to feel disposed to molest us.

The fire during a great portion of the time we were engaged was both direct on our front and oblique on our flanks. The enemy formed three distinct lines of battle against us, constantly bringing up fresh troops, and finally attacking in close column by division. All their efforts against us were, however, frustrated, and in their last attempt their loss must have been immense.

I do not think that I am vainglorious in saying that the conduct of my command cannot be too highly spoken of. They knew, for I had been so informed by the commanding general, that everything depended on their good behavior, and for four hours, without shelter, did they stand in line of battle, receiving from an enemy greatly superior in number, and well sheltered by rifle-pits, breast-works, &c., all he had to give in the way of punishment.

Where all did so well it is difficult to particularize, but I feel it to be a duty, as it is a pleasure, to especially commend Col. Simeon Sammon, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers; Col. Henry Moore, Forty-seventh New York Volunteers (both severely wounded), and Maj. W. B. Coan, commanding Forty-eighth New York Volunteers. Adj. Joseph Taylor, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, and Adjutant Sanford, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, were also conspicuous for coolness and gallantry.

The officers of my staff performed their duties with zeal, energy, and ability. I am particularly indebted to Capt. N. A. Elfwing, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general (wounded in shoulder); Lieut. Frank J. Magee, Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp; Lieut. F. D. Barnum, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp.



Accompanying this report is a list\* of my killed, wounded, and missing, which I regret to say is very large, amounting to 811 officers and men.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM B. BARTON,

*Colonel Forty-eighth New York Vols., Comdg. Brigade.*

Capt. P. R. CHADWICK,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 5.

*Report of Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Olustee.*

HEADQUARTERS HAWLEY'S BRIGADE,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 26, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report concerning the part taken by the forces under my command in the battle fought at Olustee on the 20th instant.

On the morning of the 20th, at Barber's Ford, my brigade consisted of the Seventh New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott, numbering about 30 officers and 675 men; the Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, Col. Charles W. Fribley, 21 officers and 554 men, and the Seventh Connecticut, Capt. Benjamin F. Skinner, 10 officers and 365 men; aggregate, 61 officers and 1,594 men. Deducting wagoners, hospital attendants, &c., and men broken down on the march, perhaps 1,500 men went into the battle. We had ten days' supply of hard bread, and about three days' of coffee and sugar.

The Seventh Connecticut and half of the Seventh New Hampshire carried Spencer carbines, the remainder Springfield or Bridesburg rifles. Colonel Henry's command of mounted men led the column. My brigade followed. Captain Hamilton's light battery, Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, taking the road, and the regiments moving by the flank abreast thereof, the Seventh New Hampshire and Seventh Connecticut on the right of the road, the Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry on the left. Before reaching Sanderson, by General Seymour's order, the Seventh Connecticut took the road and kept about one-half a mile ahead of us. Two or 3 miles beyond Sanderson we came up with Colonel Henry's command, apparently arranged for a bivouac.

The rebels beginning to annoy our vedettes the general sent for a company, and soon for the whole of the Seventh Connecticut, to throw out skirmishers and move westward. Colonel Henry's command soon followed them, and in a few minutes my brigade moved on also. After going 2 or 3 miles, occasionally hearing a few shots, several discharges of artillery were heard and we quickened our pace. I directed the Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, which was abreast of the Seventh New Hampshire on the railroad on the left, to leave that, change direction to the right, and come nearer the highway. The general commanding sent me orders to get into action quickly. Taking the Seventh New Hampshire, and leaving the Eighth to go in on the left of a pond or swamp, near which was a portion of our artillery, we hurried on, the Seventh New Hamp-

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\* Embodied in table, p. 298.



shire moving by the flank, left in front. Lieutenant Bradshaw indicated the general direction to me, and I sent Lieutenant Van Keuren for definite orders. Diverging a little to the right again to clear an open pond, I had the regiment brought into column by company, and closed en masse on the tenth company. The enemy's fire began to be felt, not very severely, but it was increasing as we approached.

We met the skirmishers of the Seventh Connecticut falling back, firing, before the enemy, who showed, I judge, two battalions in line. I distinctly ordered the Seventh New Hampshire to deploy on the eighth company, which would have brought the left of the line near the pond. Somebody must have misunderstood the order, for a portion of the regiment was going wrong, when myself and staff and Colonel Abbott repeated it vigorously, but vainly. All semblance of organization was lost in a few moments, save with about one company, which faced the enemy and opened fire. The remainder constantly drifted back, suffering from the fire which a few moments' decision and energy would have checked, if not suppressed. Most of the officers went back with their men, trying to rally them. The brave color-bearer, Sergt. Thomas H. Simington, Company B, obeyed every word or signal, and sometimes faced the enemy alone. Though wounded, he carried the colors to the end of the battle. Lieut. George W. Taylor, Company B, acting adjutant of the regiment, was fearless and incessantly active, and I sorrow to record that later in the action he fell fatally wounded in the head.

Lieutenant Van Keuren, of my staff, asked a cavalry officer to deploy his company and stop the fugitives, and the latter promptly complied. Colonel Abbott obtained a similar favor and gathered nearly 200 of his men on the right of the field, where they kept up a lively fire until they heard the order to retreat.

Reporting the break to the general, I hastened back, and after a short attempt to rally the scattered men, I met the colors and buglers of the Seventh Connecticut, and the officers soon all gathered there with their reserves and skirmishers. They had been hotly engaged a very considerable time alone, and had an opportunity, which I believe they improved, to do good service. Colonel Barton's brigade was just now engaged, and moving the Seventh Connecticut to a position a little to the left and in rear of his left, I sent for the reserved ammunition, a portion of the battalion being entirely exhausted, and the others having a limited supply. Had they gone as they were, they would very soon have been compelled to fall back. As soon as the supply arrived, I moved the battalion forward on the left of Barton's brigade, which was slowly and stubbornly retiring. The Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, moving up on the left, went into line and found itself in a very hot fight. The regiment is new and was never before in battle, and I deem it creditable to both officers and men that they endured so long, and to the best of their ability returned a fire which killed and wounded over half their number.

Colonel Fribble died on the field, and the only other field officer present, Major Burritt, was severely wounded. They fell back, and were rallied on the edge of the field by the next in rank, Capt. R. C. Bailey. Three color-bearers and 5 of the color guard were killed or wounded.

The Seventh Connecticut, having been brought to the positions above described, soon opened fire, with guide sights at 600 [yards]; upon a rebel column and disordered and checked it. I kept them

lying down quiet for a time, only a few of the men firing at single rebels or small groups. Colonel Montgomery's brigade had come up. The Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, Colonel Hallowell, went into action on our left. The First North Carolina, Lieutenant-Colonel Reed, on our right, between us and Barton's retiring brigade, went up into the field, halting and firing fiercely, with its right well forward, so as to form an angle of perhaps 120 degrees with the line of the Fifty-fourth, with full space for us between. Just before they went up, the Seventh Connecticut advanced again a short distance and, lying down, opened fire for a short time, with guide sights at 400 yards, upon the enemy fairly in view. I had before this sent Lieutenant Van Keuren to the general to say that we seemed to be crowding the enemy's left, and to ask for orders, and about this time an aide came to say that the general wished me to fall back, as the enemy were only feinting on our right, and were preparing to flank us in force. I repeated what I had said to Lieutenant Van Keuren, and waited, permitting only such firing as seemed to be necessary and useful. Captain Skinner held foot until the forces on our right and left had fallen back, when he went back in line a short distance, halted, and faced the enemy a short time, and then moved by the right of companies to the rear some distance to a new line of battle, where, under my orders, he halted and came into line on the left of a light battery (which I do not know) and with a body of cavalry on his left. The firing here was chiefly by artillery.

After the battery went to the rear, we followed it to another line. Here all joined in the loud and defiant cheers which, started by the general, rang along the whole line of our army, and showed that though defeated we were not routed nor broken in spirit. We then moved to the field hospital, where we made a longer halt. Just before this, Colonel Abbott reported to me, bringing a large portion of his command to his colors, Captain Bailey also coming up with the Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry. The general ordered them to continue their retreat. Not long after, he detailed the Seventh Connecticut to cover their retreat, by deploying across the rear of all the infantry. At Sanderson I placed the Seventh New Hampshire and the Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry in line north of the hamlet to check any advance in that direction. After the stragglers and wounded had been started, by the general's orders I guarded the train, marching those two regiments by the flank and by the side of the wagons and ambulances to Baldwin, where we bivouacked on the ground we left eighteen hours before, having marched about 32 miles, and having been about three hours in battle. The Seventh Connecticut arrived an hour or two later, having marched without rest 16 miles after the battle, with a large portion of its men deployed as skirmishers.

On the morning of the 21st, my brigade was ordered to follow the wagon train, with Colonel Montgomery's brigade following me and under my command. We had gone half a mile when the Seventh Connecticut was again detached as a rear guard. It covered the rear, the mounted command of Colonel Henry excepted, to Baldwin, and when all other forces on foot left, remained over night there with Colonel Henry, on picket and fatigue, and, after loading cars, pushed some a portion of the way, leaving Baldwin at 9 a. m. on the 22d.

From Baldwin I went on to McGirt's Creek, where the command bivouacked for the night in a good position. The train and Colonel

Barton's command passed through, and Colonel Montgomery took the First North Carolina on to Camp Finegan. At 7 o'clock the next morning, with the Seventh New Hampshire, Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, and Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, I started eastward. The general detached the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts to remain for a time at Ten-Mile Station, and by his orders I went with the other two regiments to Six-Mile Creek, on the King's road, on grand guard.

The loss of the brigade in the battle was: The Seventh New Hampshire, 208; Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, 310; Seventh Connecticut, 69; aggregate killed, wounded, and missing, 587, about 37½ per cent.

Colonel Abbott did all in his power to rally his command after that regiment, which has proved its valor on other fields, so strangely broke, and its loss proves that, though not in good order, it did not go away from danger.

I have already referred to the death of the brave Lieutenant Taylor.

Colonel Fribley, of the Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, a gallant and capable officer, fell mortally wounded while in the fearless discharge of his duty, and died on the field. It was a great loss to the regiment and the service. Major Burritt, of the same regiment, was severely wounded while bravely at work. The command devolved upon Capt. R. C. Bailey, who has since discharged his new duties with zeal and discretion.

Capt. B. F. Skinner, who commanded the battalion of the Seventh Connecticut (a large portion of the regiment being absent on veteran furlough), was on the sick list when the regiment took the field, but he performed his laborious duties with the energy and fearless bravery that have always characterized him, and his battalion received the hearty commendation of the general at the close of the fight. It is greatly regretted that he has felt compelled, by ill health, to quit the service. Lieutenant Dempsey, of that regiment, a faithful, patriotic man, was killed early in the action.

My staff, First Lieut. E. Lewis Moore, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general; First Lieut. John Van Keuren, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general, and Second Lieut. Heber J. Davis, Seventh New Hampshire, accompanied me closely, were mindful of every opportunity for careful service, and certainly no officers in similar positions ever did better. Lieutenant Davis received a minie-ball in his neck in the midst of the engagement. When an opportunity offered he had the ball quickly extracted and continued on duty. Dr. W. W. Brown, surgeon Seventh New Hampshire, senior medical officer, and Lieut. W. T. Seward, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, brigade quartermaster and commissary, performed their duties admirably. Their labors on the 20th, and for two or three days after, were excessive and exhausting. Private Vinton, Company K, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, mounted orderly, had his horse twice shot, and finally killed, but he soon found another and continued on duty.

I send herewith reports of the regimental commanders.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH R. HAWLEY,

*Colonel Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.*

Capt. P. R. CHADWICK,

*Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Florida,*



## No. 6.

*Report of Capt. Benjamin F. Skinner, Seventh Connecticut Infantry,  
of engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. SEVENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,  
*Six-Mile Creek, King's Road, Fla., February 25, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to make the following report, for the information of the colonel commanding, of the part my command took in the engagement at Olustee, Fla., on the 20th instant:

My command consisted of detachments from ten companies, comprising the Seventh Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, consolidated and divided into four companies, as follows: Companies A and G, commanded by Capt. C. C. Mills, assisted by Second Lieut. Charles A. Wood, composed the first company; Companies F, D, and I, commanded by First Lieut. Jeremiah Townsend and Second Lieut. John B. Young, composed the second company; Companies E and H, commanded by First Lieut. Robert Dempsey, composed the third company; Companies B, C, and J, commanded by Capt. John Thompson and Second Lieut. Raphael Gilbert, composed the fourth company; Surg. George C. Jarvis, Second Lieut. John J. Hutchinson, acting adjutant, Second Lieut. W. H. Augur, acting regimental quartermaster, amounting in all to 10 commissioned officers and 365 enlisted men.

The regiment left Barber's Ford at 7 o'clock on the morning of the 20th, in connection with the rest of Colonel Hawley's brigade, which moved in four distinct columns, the Seventh Connecticut forming the second column from the right and on the right of the road, in this order, for about 5 miles, when I was ordered by Colonel Hawley to march my command into the road and in advance of the brigade; afterward, by direction of General Seymour, I held my regiment about half a mile in advance until we arrived at a station (name unknown), perhaps 3 miles beyond Sanderson, when I was directed by General Seymour to send forward two companies as skirmishers. I immediately ordered the first two companies, under Captain Mills and Lieutenant Townsend, to move forward, which were deployed on the left of the railroad, the second company forming a reserve for the left of the line. I was also directed by the same authority to throw one company forward upon the right of the railroad as skirmishers, and follow with the remainder of my force within supporting distance. Our advance soon came up with the enemy's advance guard and exchanged a few shots with them, when they retreated, firing occasionally as they went. We followed them in this way about 3 miles, when, after firing a few shots from our advance battery, Captain Elder's, the enemy replied with a battery of three or four guns, when I was directed by General Seymour to go forward with the rest of my command and, if possible, secure the enemy's battery. I moved the remainder of my command forward immediately, in double-quick time, upon the right of the railroad for about 300 yards, when we came up with my line of skirmishers. I immediately directed the remainder of the third company, which had been held in reserve, to deploy as skirmishers and move up to the support of the advanced line. I also deployed the fourth company with the same directions, the enemy having made a flank movement in order to mass his advance on our right. Captain Mills



followed, moving a portion of his command across and to the right of the railroad, the whole forming a very strong line of skirmishers 300 or 400 yards in length. I immediately pushed the line forward as fast as possible, paying particular attention to the enemy's batteries, the strength of which had developed itself upon the left of our line to the right of the railroad. After moving up 200 or 300 yards I found the enemy drawn up in line to receive us and in position to support their battery, the enemy here showing a front of five regiments, flanked on the right and left by cavalry, which made occasional demonstrations upon our flanks, but were easily turned back in disorder.

After a few moments' attention from our seven-shooters, supposing that support was close at hand, I pushed forward, firing rapidly as I went, which caused the enemy to give ground to us, I should judge, 200 yards, in some confusion, but firing as they withdrew. Here I discovered that the enemy were intrenched and delivered well-directed volleys of musketry. I found also that my ammunition was very nearly expended (some of my men being entirely out), there was no support in sight, I had already pushed so far in the enemy's center that my line formed a semicircle, and that I was receiving the enemy's fire from three sides. At this juncture I determined to withdraw and save my command, which was done at the proper time, for had I remained there five minutes longer my whole command would have been swallowed up in the enemy's advance. My men withdrew rapidly. Those who had ammunition fired as they withdrew and divided to the right and left in order to unmask the Seventh Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers, who approached. After I had withdrawn about 400 yards, I directed my course toward our regiment's right, where I found that portion of my command which had gone to the right. Some were entangled with a portion of the New Hampshire Volunteers, whom I withdrew as soon as possible, and moved by the flank to the left, where I found Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant Hutchinson, who had rallied about 100 men around the colors. I was soon found by Captain Mills and Lieutenant Townsend with most of their commands. I reorganized the regiment there, and by direction of Colonel Hawley the men lay down to await a supply of ammunition, which had been sent for and was accordingly furnished. We afterward moved forward to fill a gap in the line occasioned by the advance of a regiment upon each side of us. Here the enemy appeared about 600 yards in front of us and a little to the left. By direction of Colonel Hawley our guide sights were raised to 600 yards, when we opened fire by file, which broke up the enemy's column and checked his advance. We remained in this position, occasionally firing or permitting a portion of the men to fire as the enemy showed himself, until by direction from the same authority we moved to the rear about 100 yards. Our forces on the right and left, being on the retreat, then faced about, and putting the guide sights at 400 yards opened an effective fire for a few minutes. Soon after this the engagement closed, though we took position in line two or three times. I was directed by Colonel Hawley to report to Colonel Barton, of the Forty-eighth Regiment New York Volunteers, which I accordingly did, and by his direction deployed 125 of my men as rear guard for the army (which had now left the field), making a line of nearly half a mile in length, a body of our cavalry being behind me. I occupied this relative position and marched in this manner until I reached Bar-

ber's Ford, for a distance of about 18 miles from the battle-field, when I marched my command onto the same ground that it had occupied before leaving Barber's Ford the morning before, my men having marched a distance of 36 miles, 18 of which was marched without rest and over bad ground; many swamps, ditches, pickets, and fences intervened to obstruct my march.

Arriving here about 3 o'clock in the morning of the 21st, I remained here until about 9 a. m., when I was directed by Colonel Hawley to move with the brigade, my position being upon the left of the [Seventh] New Hampshire Volunteers. I moved in this way about three-quarters of a mile on the road to Baldwin, when I was directed by the same authority to go back to Barber's Ford and report to Colonel Barton, who ordered me to deploy my men in the same manner as the night before as a rear guard. I moved in the manner directed until we reached Baldwin, when I recalled my skirmishers, by permission of Colonel Barton, and marched my men inside of the town for the purpose of securing the knapsacks which belonged to my command, the same having been left there under guard. This done, I was directed by General Seymour to remain in Baldwin over night (all others except mounted men having continued the retreat), and to throw out a line of pickets to cover our rear. Colonel Henry soon came into town with his command, and ordered a detail from my command to load the cars, which came in about 3 o'clock the next morning. He afterward ordered me to send off half of my command with the train. I also, by his direction, scattered turpentine and rosin around in the railroad building preparatory to burning the same. Colonel Henry directed me to march with the rest of my command to Jacksonville, and go by way of the railroad. Finding, between Baldwin and Ten-Mile Station, three cars which belonged to the train which left Baldwin in the morning, one of which had 400 boxes of hard bread, Captain Mills pushed them about 3 miles with a portion of my command, having volunteered for the purpose.

Arriving at Ten-Mile Station, I found the two companies which I had sent off in the morning. After resting there half an hour, I resumed my march, arriving in Jacksonville about 7 o'clock, having marched 20 miles, and, by direction of General Seymour, I encamped in front of the redoubt.

Next morning, by direction of the same authority, I moved forward about 600 yards and to the right across the railroad, where I remained until the next day or two, when, by order of General Seymour, I joined the brigade on King's road, on Six-Mile Creek.

Of my command I can only speak in the highest terms, both officers and men exhibiting the utmost coolness, bravery, and patience; in fact, it was a feature to be noticed and praised that when called to perform arduous duties it was done with a cheerfulness really remarkable.

Inclosed you will find a list of casualties.\*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. SKINNER,

*Captain, Seventh Connecticut Vols., Comdg. Regiment.*

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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\* Embodied in table, p. 298.

## No. 7.

*Report of Capt. Charles C. Mills, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.*

CAMP BATTALION SEVENTH CONNECTICUT VOLS.,  
*King's Road, Six-Mile Creek, February 25, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that at or near Olustee, at 1.30 of the 20th day of February, 1864, being so instructed, having moved forward the first two companies of the battalion, and having received additional instructions from Brig. Gen. T. Seymour to deploy as skirmishers such a portion of my command as I deemed necessary, I caused the first company to be deployed, holding the second company under Lieutenant Townsend as reserve. The line of skirmishers advanced from Olustee between 3 and 4 miles, occasionally discovering a large force of cavalry, which continued to retreat by lines in front of us occasionally for a few moments, threatening our flanks, and then precipitately retreating. During the first half mile of the advance of skirmishers our right was extended by the deployment of 30 men under Lieutenant Dempsey. The advance of our line of skirmishers commenced to be very much impeded at about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Olustee. At a distance of 4 miles its advance was entirely checked, all the left of the line being thrown into a swamp and exposed to a galling fire from the enemy's right. From this position the right was advanced a few rods, the ground being more open and passable, and then ordered to lie down, maintaining all the while a lively fire. In this position, with an occasional slight advance, our ammunition was nearly all expended, and our line gradually withdrew, being charged upon by a regiment of the enemy.

In our advance and retreat the general deportment of the men was such that it is difficult for me to single out those deserving of especial praise. I would, however, recommend First Sergt. William H. Haynes, of G; Sergt. D. D. Keys, of A; Acting Corpls. H. P. Bosworth and William H. Johnson, of G; Privates Harris, of A, and Gosson, of G.

One man, of G Company, deserves censure, Private Thomas Wallet (substitute) having fallen to the rear without orders. He received a saber cut on the head from one of the Massachusetts cavalry.

The company having reformed with the battalion, I can but simply say I believe they performed their duty well.

CHAS. C. MILLS,

*Captain, First Company, Battalion Seventh Conn. Vols.*

Capt. B. F. SKINNER, *Commanding Battalion.*

## No. 8.

*Report of Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. SEVENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 27, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor respectfully to submit the following report of the part which my regiment took in the engagement near Olustee on the 20th instant:

The regiment formed at daylight of the 20th, and, constituting the



right of Hawley's brigade, advanced from Barber's plantation, on the road toward Sanderson. The head of the column passed Sanderson about 12 m., and when about 3 miles beyond that place the first picket firing was heard between our skirmishers and those of the enemy. The enemy's skirmishers retired, and the column continued to advance for about 3 miles more, when it came upon the main force of the enemy at a point about 3 miles east of Olustee. My regiment was moving by the left flank and remained in that order until we were under the fire of the enemy. The regiment was then brought by company into line and closed in mass. The order was then given by myself to deploy upon the first company and the deployment commenced. At this moment I was informed by yourself that the deployment was not as you intended, and I at once commanded, "Halt; front!" but the fire of the enemy had now become very severe, and in the attempt to bring the regiment again into column confusion ensued, followed by faltering on the part of some of the men, and finally in almost a complete break. About 100 of the regiment remained upon the ground occupied by the column and the remainder fell back a short distance, when with some other officers I succeeded in rallying a part of them, bringing them into something like order, and again advancing. I continued during the engagement to hold a position a little to the right of that on which my column stood when it was ordered to deploy, and opposed as judiciously as I was able to do what appeared to me to be an attempt of the enemy to flank our right. When it was apparent to me that our line was falling back, I gradually withdrew. It is proper to state, perhaps, that becoming separated from the commander of the brigade in the attempt to rally the battalion, I thereafter received no orders until the close of the engagement.

My loss in officers was 1 killed and 7 wounded. George W. Taylor, first lieutenant and acting adjutant, fell late in the action, having been distinguished throughout for coolness and courage, as he is now lamented by all the regiment who esteem a true soldier. My loss in enlisted men was 14 killed and 97 wounded, and my total loss of officers and men in killed, wounded, and missing was 209. A list\* of casualties is herewith inclosed.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JOSEPH C. ABBOTT,

*Colonel Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers.*

Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY,

*Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.*

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No. 9. •

*Reports of Capt. Romanzo C. Bailey, Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. EIGHTH REGIMENT U. S. COLORED TROOPS,

*February 24, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken in the late battle of Olustee, Fla., on the 20th instant, by the Eighth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Charles W. Fribley commanding:

After leaving the railroad along which we had been advancing until within about 1,000 yards of the enemy, Colonel Fribley re-

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\*Omitted.



ceived orders to "put his regiment in," when we were ordered to change direction to the left, moving now in double-quick time by the right flank on a line nearly parallel with the railroad and about 300 yards to its right. We were soon under fire of the enemy, when our line of battle was formed under a terrific fire of musketry at short range, we apparently being opposed by the entire left wing of the enemy, who very soon poured in a deadly fire on our left flank, which was unprotected wholly. Colonel Fribley now ordered the regiment to fall back slowly, which we did, firing as we retired, being unable to withstand so disastrous a fire. The order had just reached me on the extreme right when the colonel fell mortally wounded. The command now devolved on Major Burritt, who soon received two wounds and retired from the field, the regiment at this time engaging the enemy with steadiness, and holding the ground for some time near Hamilton's battery, which we were trying to save. We here lost 3 color-sergeants and 5 of the color guard while attempting to save one gun, but we were driven back, leaving the gun and, as I afterward learned, the color beside it during the excitement.

I now learned that I was in command of the regiment, and seeing that a regiment at least of the enemy was moving down the railroad to again attack our left, and knowing that our ammunition was exhausted, I took the responsibility to withdraw the regiment from the field, moving by the right flank, slowly and in good order, passing in the rear of the Fifty-fourth Regiment Colored Troops (Massachusetts), where we remained until the retreat commenced, when we with the Seventh New Hampshire Regiment guarded the wagon train into Barber's.

The regiment went into the engagement with 21 officers and 544 men. Our losses were as follows: Officers killed, 1; wounded and missing, 1; wounded, 8; total, 10. Enlisted men killed, 65; wounded and missing, 49; missing, 15; wounded, 204; total, 333. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 343.

Having taken command of the regiment at a late period of the engagement I cannot give as accurate a report as I might under other circumstances, but the above is, I believe, a true report of everything that came to my notice during the battle, and in conclusion permit me to say that both officers and men did their duty to the extent of their ability.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. C. BAILEY,

*Captain, Comdg. Eighth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops.*

Lieut. E. L. MOORE,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH U. S. COLORED TROOPS,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., March 10, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following statement in relation to the loss of the national color of the Eighth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, at the battle of Olustee, Fla., on the 20th ultimo:

I will call your attention to the fact that I was, at the time the color was lost, in command of my company on the right of the regiment, which post I kept until, noticing that the color company was

nearly annihilated, both officers being disabled also, I went with the few men that I had left (about 20) to its assistance, observing only the regimental color, which I ordered to fall back with my men, and did not at the time notice that the national color was gone. Having learned at this time that I was in command of the regiment, I made every effort to bring the men off the field (our ammunition being exhausted) in order, they having been driven back from the battery where the color in question was lost, as I learned from Lieut. E. Lewis, Company F, of this regiment, whose statement I inclose, with the signatures of those officers who were present at the time.

I will here state that of 43 men of the color company who went into the action 30 were killed, wounded, and missing, losing 5 of the color guard and 3 sergeants, who at different times seized the colors while attempting to save the battery, beside which they were planted by Lieutenant Lewis, who left them to stop the horses belonging to the battery, which he did, and delivered them to one of the drivers, when he was compelled to fall back, leaving the color with the gun.

I believe the above to be a correct statement of the facts as far as I am acquainted with them, and hope that no stigma will be attached to our regiment for what was, I believe, the unavoidable loss of our colors.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. C. BAILEY,

*Captain, Comdg Eighth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops.*

Lieut. R. M. HALL,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 10.

*Report of Lieut. Elijah Lewis, Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. EIGHTH REGIMENT U. S. COLORED TROOPS,

*March 10, 1864.*

SIR: In pursuance to verbal orders from regimental headquarters, I have the honor to make the following report in reference to the loss of the colors of our regiment at the battle of Ocean Pond, Fla., February 20, 1864:

After the colonel was killed an order to fall back was given by Major Burritt, who was immediately after wounded and carried off the field. The enemy's fire at this time was very severe, and my company, having had a large number killed and wounded, fell back in considerable confusion. In the retrograde movement we did not move directly to the rear, but obliquely to our right, thus passing near where the colors were. My attention was directed to a flag lying on the ground. I picked it up; it was our national color. An officer of the battery now rode up and said, in words as nearly as I can recollect, "Don't leave that battery; bring your flag and rally the men around it." I carried the colors up to the gun, when Lieutenant Norton, of Company K, said, "Don't carry that flag; give it to one of the men, and help form some kind of a line." Lieut. A. F. Ely also came to assist in collecting the men together. At this time the horses attached to a limber of one of the guns, having no

one to control them, started to the rear, breaking through the small number I was endeavoring to rally. I caught the near leader by the bridle and succeeded, with the help of some of our men, in stopping them. They were then taken in charge by one of the drivers of the battery. The fire from the enemy now became so destructive we could not keep our men in line. We were in disorder and falling back when Captain Bailey (on whom the command of the regiment now devolved) came and gave the order for us to retire.

In conclusion, I would beg leave to state that both officers of the color company were severely wounded, that two color-sergeants were killed and another wounded, and half the color guard wounded or killed. I do not know on whom the responsibility of losing the colors should properly rest. We had two stand of colors belonging to the regiment; I was misled by seeing one of them being carried out, thinking both were there. I do not know whether these facts are stated in the consecutive order in which they happened, but they are as nearly correct as it was possible for me to remember amid the excitement and confusion of that sanguinary day.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. LEWIS,

*First Lieutenant, Eighth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops.*

Lieut. J. E. RICHARDSON,

*Adjutant Eighth U. S. Colored Troops.*

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No. 11.

*Report of Lieut. Andrew F. Ely, Eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.*

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., March 10, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders from regimental headquarters, I have the honor to submit the following statement in regard to the loss of our national colors at Olustee, Fla., February 20, 1864:

I was near Lieutenant Lewis when he picked up the colors and saw him carry them toward the battery on our left. I called to the men to rally around the colors and save the battery. Lieutenant Norton also attempted to rally those on my left. We succeeded in bringing up a fragment of the regiment within a few yards of the battery, when the horses of one of the guns came rushing onto our little line, throwing us into some confusion. I think at this time Lieutenant Lewis gave the colors to one of the men. I saw him strike one of the horses with his sword, and in conjunction with some others seize the horses by the bits to stop them. He did not get the colors again, and we commenced falling back obliquely to the right in obedience to an order from Capt. R. C. Bailey, then commanding the regiment. I saw a corporal carrying our battle-flag, and supposing they had the other, paid no further attention to the matter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. F. ELY,

*Second Lieutenant, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops.*

Lieutenant RICHARDSON,

*Adjutant Eighth U. S. Colored Troops.*



## No. 12.

*Report of Col. Edward N. Hallowell, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, of engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. FIFTY-FOURTH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., March 1, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: At 8.30 o'clock on the morning of February 20, 1864, the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers left Barber's with its colonel, lieutenant-colonel, 13 line officers, and about 480 enlisted men, the rest of the regiment having been detailed for other duty. It marched in charge of wagon train to Olustee, at which place the train was stopped and the regiment moved forward at the double-quick about 2 miles, where it was formed in line between the railroad and dirt road, under a sharp fire from the enemy. In this formation it advanced some 200 yards through a swamp, driving the enemy from some guns, and checking the advance of a column of the enemy's infantry. After firing about 20,000 cartridges, the men of the regiment were ordered to retreat by Col. James Montgomery, commanding brigade. A new line was formed on the right of the dirt road, where the regiment staid till after dark, when it was ordered, through Colonel Barton, to march back to Barber's, where it arrived one hour after midnight.

Their loss in officers was 3 wounded—Capt. R. H. L. Jewett, First Lieut. H. W. Littlefield, and First Lieut. E. G. Tomlinson—in enlisted men, killed, 13; wounded, 63; missing, 8; total, 87.

The State color three times fell and each time was caught up by another corporal. Sergt. Stephen A. Swails, acting sergeant-major, deserves special praise for his coolness, bravery, and efficiency during the action; he received a severe but not mortal wound in the head.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
E. N. HALLOWELL,

*Colonel Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers.*

Lieut. R. M. HALL,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 13.

*Report of Capt. Loomis L. Langdon, Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.*

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY BRIGADE,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., March 25, 1864.*

SIR: Pursuant to instructions, I have the honor to report the action of the artillery under my command at the late battle of Olustee, Fla., February 20, 1864:

On the morning of February 20, General Seymour's command, of which my own was a portion, left Barber's Ford, near Saint Mary's River, en route for Lake City. My own immediate command consisted of my battery (M, First Artillery), four light 12-pounder brass guns, and a section of Captain James' Third Rhode Island Volunteer Artillery, under Lieutenant Metcalf, in all six guns. I was



attached to Barton's brigade, and about the center of the column. As we neared Olustee, Barton having heard some firing in front, and noticing its increase, threw out a regiment on the left and two on the right. We then, after a short halt, moved on in three parallel lines, the regiment, by the flank and the battery in column of pieces. Quite or nearly an hour had been occupied by different halts, and not much ground gone over by us, who were not in advance. During all this the firing occurred with fewer intervals and more force after the first shots until we moved on the last time, when it had become a continuous but not very loud rattle of musketry. I was soon met by an aide, who brought orders for me to "come up at once," and a few minutes afterward I received another order to "come up as quickly as possible." I started out at a trot, leaving the infantry to which I was attached, and coming behind the line of battle near where Hamilton's caissons stood, and I think one of his sections not engaged. Here seeing the general in command, his staff, and Hamilton, the chief of artillery, I waited for further orders. After forming line, nearly perpendicularly to the line of battle, pieces in front and prepared to move in any direction, I waited there some five or ten minutes, when an aide came to me and said I was wanted, or help was wanted, on the left; in addition, as nearly as I can remember, he added, "We are threatened there;" or, "We are threatened there and unsupported. Go on the left." Moving to the left then and some 150 yards to the rear of and obliquely to the line of battle, I was overtaken by another aide who told me "to send one section off to the right." I detached Lieut. Tully McCrea, whose section was the nearest, and asking the aide-de-camp to point out the way to McCrea, I moved on with the other four guns; this was done without halting, his section merely wheeling out of line. I saw McCrea no more until the line was ordered to retire. I came into battery by wheeling the sections to the right, having Metcalf's section on my left.

My position was about 100 or 150 yards to the left, and quite as much to the rear of Elder's battery. The latter was the extreme left of the line then in my front; at least, there was nothing that presented the appearance of a regiment in line. I have been informed that the Seventh New Hampshire and the Eighth U. S. Colored were posted on my left. I did see a crowd of men firing wildly in my front, but without order or judgment. I saw what I believed to be Elder's battery on my right and front, and on his right other guns and a line of men, firm and cool, firing as if on parade, and out of this line men dropping singly and in groups, wounded and dying. From my position not an enemy could be seen, though the balls came occasionally with such force as to indicate their immediate vicinity. They must have fired from the grass and trees. A line of smoke in front was my only guide. I fired a few rounds, but was not satisfied, for I could see no result, as I was firing high to reach their reserves. There being nothing visible in front, I limbered to the left and moved farther to the left, about 100 yards. Here the same difficulties presented themselves—the trees too thick to obtain a chance to fire, and my men and horses falling from an invisible foe. In my first position, before firing at all, I lost 2 or 3 men, how badly hurt I do not know. In my second position I had but a few minutes to wait before the enemy seemed to have suddenly discovered me, for the balls came now rapidly and evidently directed at us, and though I fired double can-

ister, in fact, everything I could get at, the men and horses went down fast. My men acted as well as men could; and now occurred an incident which, for my two guns, materially changed the face of affairs. A caisson of my battery, through the stupidity of the drivers or fright of the horses, passed the guns and wheeled to the left, directly between me and the enemy. Out of the 18 men who should have been with the guns I had about 8 left. The drivers of the caisson, becoming an immediate target for the enemy, soon left the horses. They were sent back, and 2 retreated. One remained and succeeded in starting the caisson, but it got fastened by a tree, and the man came back, stating it was impossible to get it out alone. There was no one to help him, and the caisson was left, but at that instant the leaders broke away and came among us. Metcalf had meanwhile limbered up and moved to the rear; this was without orders from me. I learned afterward that Elder, seeing what he then thought my dangerous position, had advised him to leave. My position I now realized was serious; the caisson that prevented my firing directly to the front, and which had occasioned so much trouble, was abandoned, and orders given to "limber up." One limber now got caught in a tree, a horse went down and was ordered to be cut out; then another was struck, then 2 drivers, 1 helping while he was bleeding to death. It was then I looked back to my left and saw a cavalry force marching toward our rear. At first I thought it was a portion of the Fortieth Massachusetts retiring from the left and front, but seeing a company of Stevens' cavalry moving from the rear toward them with sabers drawn, I turned a gun on the advancing enemy, and Metcalf from the rear did the same. This was the first fair shooting I had had as yet. They broke; at all events disappeared. Just at that moment a sudden and alarming increase of the firing, culminating apparently in one point, near where Hamilton and McCrea were on my right, attracted my attention. The musketry firing had now increased to one loud, continuous peal, amid which was heard the rapid cracking of the guns. But this roar and this cannonade, as I said, all at once increased, and suddenly at one point. I saw in this an advance of the enemy—a rush to break our center; and though, on account of the smoke, the trees, and the leaves, I could see no foe, I turned my two guns to the right and fired as rapidly as possible obliquely across and in front of our forces, particularly the battery nearest me. All thought of limbering up was now abandoned. I felt that the whole energies of the command was directed to repel that one blow. The firing now reached its height, and our men, firm and collected, we could see filling up the gaps. The enemy was checked. I felt that if I had withdrawn the guns at that instant that the infantry on my right would fall back with them, and in this firmness and this obstinacy I felt reassured that I would find time to get some of my people, who had been sent to the rear with the caissons, to come to my aid with the limbers of the latter, and continue the firing or help off the guns. I had now about 7 men untouched. The next thought was to get to the general, who, at that instant, I saw near me, and report. The balls now coming so fast and the men being struck every instant, I reluctantly gave the order to retire and reported to the general. I asked for men and was answered that I could not have them; all were engaged. I had no thought but that the ground would be reoccupied in a few minutes, when with fresh men I would regain my pieces. The line com-



menced retiring in good order, just after I spoke to the general, and then I met one of McCrea's guns coming off, with some men carrying him, wounded in both legs. He, too, had lost a gun, and himself and others were wounded in attempting to get it off. As regards my support there was no appearance of an organization of our people on my left or immediate front. I saw a number of men of colored regiments in groups of from 2 up to 10, very much excited and huddling behind my caissons, and some of them firing through and over the battery. I saw 2 officers with them, but only for an instant. One of them tried to wave them on with his sword; 5 or 6 followed him about ten steps and then all retreated. The color bearer, a large, powerful man, with a blue regimental flag, remained on the left of my guns, where Metcalf had been, and near my piece; he stood there manfully and bravely to the last, and with but 2 or 3 companions, sometimes entirely alone; what became of him I am unable to say. I saw many wounded colored soldiers appearing suddenly in front and on my left, without muskets, and it appeared as if they had been lying down and taken the first opportunity to get to the rear. Some of the infantry, while facing the enemy and firing wildly, did not show fear, nor did I see any of them absolutely run off, but groups of them huddled together and did nothing, and many were in this position shot, while they seemed unconscious that they were hit. I desired them to take to the trees with a hope that I would thus in a measure draw off the fire of the enemy. It is my impression that this portion of the regiment had been broken, and retreated from the front before I came up, and the appearance of my caissons reassured them and brought them again up to the flag. At the time I drew off, and when I could fire no longer, I saw a large body of the enemy in front advancing slowly and waving their hats and shouting. They halted, apparently, but did not charge the guns. This was the Nineteenth and Twenty-eighth Georgia, as stated by their own papers. They contented themselves with shooting at a distance every man who appeared near the guns.

I take this occasion—and it is one of the redeeming features of the whole affair—to speak of the good conduct of First Sergeant Bach, Sergeant Lane, and particularly of Sergeant Sweetman (badly wounded), Corporal McChesney (wounded), and Corporals Kinsman and Delany. I cannot mention all the privates engaged, but I have no reason to believe that any one of them acted otherwise than well.

I lost 28 horses killed, principally at the pieces, 11 wounded, and 11 men killed on the field, and 23 wounded, besides Lieut. Tully McCrea, of whose gallantry the general was a nearer witness than myself.

I would take this occasion to recommend to the favorable notice of the general, Dr. J. H. Janeway, whose ambulance was twice removed to the rear to get it out of fire. He took charge of the whole artillery wounded, and putting the two ambulances together, and assisted by his junior, Assistant Surgeon Hillary, he was assiduous in his duties. To his watchful care we owe much in the safety of the wounded officers, and on his arrival at Jacksonville he quickly established a hospital, and thus collected and cared for the wounded that he had not dispatched to Hilton Head.

That I unavoidably lost my guns, and that the enemy estimate their capture as being greater than that of a regiment, is my only

excuse for the length of this report. Had I had a victory to record a few lines would have been sufficient, but when one is unfortunate his report becomes an explanation.

I inclose Lieutenant Metcalf's report to me. I lost 3 guns of my 4, 2 caissons, and 2 limbers.

Respectfully submitted.

L. L. LANGDON,

*Captain, First Artillery, Commanding Battery M.*

Lieut. R. M. HALL,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 14.

*Report of Lieut. John R. Myrick, Battery E, Third U. S. Artillery,  
of engagement at Olustee.*

HILTON HEAD, S. C., February 24, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report to the general commanding that, pursuant to directions received from Capt. John Hamilton, Third U. S. Artillery, as he was about leaving the field near Olustee, on the 20th instant, wounded, I endeavored (Lieutenants Eddy and Dodge, Third Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, having left the field, wounded) to withdraw the four pieces of Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, which had been placed on the left and in advance of Captain Elder's battery of the First U. S. Artillery. I succeeded in getting two pieces with caissons to the rear (some of the horses of the remaining two pieces were already lying dead in harness), and as soon as cut loose the limbers were brought near their pieces, but to no purpose, as from the well-directed fire of the enemy, which was concentrated upon us (the Eighth U. S. Colored, which was the only regiment near the battery, having withdrawn), horses, drivers, and cannoneers fell either dead or wounded in one pile across the trails of the pieces. I received at the same time a wound in my foot, my horse wounded five times and left upon the field.

I would here call the attention of the commanding general to the behavior of Corpl. A. Barnard, who, after gallantly fighting his piece, fell dead while endeavoring to get it away.

Finding the horses and men belonging to the two pieces either killed or wounded, I withdrew from the position myself, the whole line at the time retiring, the Eighth U. S. Colored having previously done so, and Elder's battery, as well as Colonel Henry's regiment, in the act. I am confident that had I old men in the place of the attached *Enfants Perdus* (who took the opportunity to go to the rear when the first two pieces were sent off) I could have got the pieces away. I can pay no higher tribute of praise to those old soldiers of the battery than to say that they stood by me in my endeavors to save the guns until they were either killed or wounded. When I retired I found Elder's battery had occupied a new position, and the remaining section of Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, under Lieutenant Irwin, Third Rhode Island Volunteer Heavy Artillery, attached for duty, who was fighting it nobly, on Elder's left. I changed the position of the section to the right flank to avoid a marsh in rear



of the left, and continued retiring in line with Elder's battery until nearly dark, when my wound compelled me to again turn over the section to Lieutenant Irwin and go to the rear.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. R. MYRICK,

*First Lieutenant, Third Artillery.*

Capt. P. R. CHADWICK,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 15.

*Report of Lieut. Henry H. Metcalf, Company C, Third Rhode Island Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. LIGHT CO. C, THIRD RHODE ISLAND ARTY.,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., March 7, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report, in compliance with instructions from headquarters District of Florida, Department of the South, the part my command, a section of Light Company C, Third Rhode Island Artillery, took at the battle of Olustee, February 20, 1864.

I arrived at the battle-field at 3 p. m., and was immediately ordered into position on the left of Light Company M, First U. S. Artillery. My position was then changed to the left, bringing my section on the extreme left. I immediately opened on the enemy's cavalry with 3½ and 4 second shells, with an occasional round of canister at their infantry in front. The enemy were within 50 yards of my guns and advancing and my gunners and horses falling rapidly, when I received a suggestion from Captain Elder, Light Company B, First U. S. Artillery, to retire. One of my pieces was sent to the rear to act as reserve with the caissons, all the horses and gunners being disabled and killed. During the rest of the action I received my orders from Captain Elder, Light Company B, First U. S. Artillery. My last charge was double canister at 100 yards, and I then received orders to retreat.

My men behaved so well that it would be impossible to notice any individual case of gallantry. My loss was 6 men wounded, 1 man killed, and 7 horses disabled and killed, being in action nearly four hours.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY H. METCALF,

*First Lieutenant Co. C, Third Rhode Island Artillery.*

Capt. L. L. LANGDON,

*Chief of Artillery, District of Florida.*

No. 16.

*Reports of General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., February 22, 1864—1 p. m.

General Finegan met enemy in full force under General Seymour at or near Olustee, Fla., and defeated him with great loss on the 20th instant. He holds possession of the field of battle, with killed and

wounded of the enemy, with five pieces of artillery and large number of small-arms. Number of prisoners not yet known, but being brought in constantly. His cavalry is in pursuit. Our loss about 250 killed and wounded, including many brave officers and men, whom we mourn.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 23, 1864—2.15 p. m.*

Latest report from General Finegan gives no particulars of victory at Ocean Pond, except that he has taken all enemy's artillery, some 500 or 600 stand of small-arms already collected, and that roads for 3 miles are strewn with enemy's dead and wounded. He reports General Gillmore at Jacksonville. Enemy said to be 10,000 strong. Our force not half that number at time of battle, all re-enforcements sent not having then reached him.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., March 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: In transmitting detailed reports of recent operations in East Florida I have to accompany them, for the information of the War Department, with the following:

The officer in observation at Foot Point of the enemy's fleet in the waters of Port Royal and Broad River having reported on the afternoon of January 14 that some thirty-five vessels, including an iron-clad from Hilton Head, had gone to sea in the fog of the day before, and probably with troops, as it was observed to be more quiet on the adjacent islands (less drumming and firing of small-arms) than usual, I gave Major-General Gilmer, at Savannah, immediate notification of the fact, with instructions to keep strict watch in the direction of Wassaw Sound and the Ossabaw. At the same time orders were given to the proper staff officers to hold means of transportation by rail in readiness on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad. An increase of the tents of the enemy on Tybee Island was also observed and reported.

On January 16, I repaired in person to Savannah, in which quarter I apprehended some operations might be looked for. I remained in the District of Georgia, inspecting the troops and works, until February 3, when, there being no indication of any movement of the enemy in that direction, I returned to Charleston, leaving with Major-General Gilmer orders to hold the Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, the First Florida Battalion, and a light battery in readiness to be sent to Florida at short notice.

On February 7 (received 8th), Brigadier-General Finegan reported by telegraph that five gun-boats and two transports of the enemy had made their appearance in the Saint John's, within 5 miles of Jacksonville, and on the next day announced the arrival at Jackson-

ville of eighteen vessels (gun-boats and transports), the landing of the enemy (presumed in large force), and an immediate advance on the night of February 7. General Gilmer was at once directed to put in motion (to report to General Finegan) all the troops he had been previously ordered to hold in readiness for such an emergency. General Gardner, commanding in Middle Florida, was telegraphed to send to the imperiled quarter, with all possible celerity, every soldier he could spare. Colquitt's brigade was ordered from James Island to Savannah with a light battery. General Finegan was advised of what was done, and instructed to do what he could with his means to hold the enemy at bay, and to prevent the capture of slaves; and at the same time I reported to you this hostile movement and my intention to repel it, as far as practicable, with infantry to be withdrawn from Charleston and Savannah, but requested, in consequence of the very recent discharge of some 5,000 South Carolina militia, that other troops should be sent to take their place and avoid danger to Charleston and Savannah.

Scarcely had Colquitt's brigade begun to move when the enemy, in anticipation, doubtless, of my attempt to re-enforce Finegan, made a strong demonstration on John's Island. Though assured of the purpose of this movement, it assumed, however, so serious a form as to compel me to divert temporarily General Colquitt and three and a half regiments of his brigade to re-enforce General Wise, then confronted by at least two brigades of the enemy (about 4,500 strong), pushed forward in advance of the haulover or bridge-way between John's and Seabrook Islands; and, in addition, several regiments of infantry were detached from Sullivan's and James Islands, to be in readiness for the development of the enemy's purposes.

On the night of the 11th ultimo, I ordered all our batteries bearing on Morris Island to open a heavy simultaneous fire on that position, as if a cover for an assault, and with the hope of forcing the enemy to withdraw from John's Island to the protection of his own works. This stratagem seems to have produced the desired effect, or assisted to make him abandon the movement on John's Island and withdraw hastily before daybreak, thus releasing and enabling Colquitt's command to reach General Finegan in time to meet and defeat the enemy at Ocean Pond, some 13 miles in advance of Lake City.

In the meanwhile other troops (fast as the means of railroad transportation would enable me) had been dispatched to the theater of war from the works around Charleston and Savannah and the positions covering the Savannah Railroad. This was done, indeed, to a hazardous degree; but, as I informed the honorable Secretary of War by telegraph the 9th ultimo, I regarded it as imperative to attempt to secure the subsistence resources of Florida. General Finegan was also apprised of these re-enforcements on February 11, and instructed to maneuver mean time to check or delay the enemy, but to avoid close quarters and unnecessary loss of men. While these re-enforcements were en route the enemy again attempted to delay them by a movement, with show of force, against Whitemarsh Island, near Savannah, and it became a measure of proper precaution to halt at Savannah two of the regiments on their way to General Finegan for the development of the enemy's plans, one of which regiments, indeed, I felt it but prudent to detain there to the present.



The want of adequate rolling stock on the Georgia and Florida railroads, and the existence of the gap of some 26 miles between the two roads, subjected the concentration of my forces to a delay which deprived my efforts to that end of full effect. The absence of General Hill making it injudicious for me to leave this State, I directed Brigadier-General Taliaferro to proceed to Florida and assume the command, he being an officer in whose ability, field experience, and judgment I had high confidence, not knowing at the time that Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner, commanding in Middle Florida, his senior, had returned from sick-leave, and was fit for field service, and had gone to General Finegan's headquarters with the troops of his district. Apprised of this, I directed General Gardner, on the 21st ultimo, to assume command and organize for a vigorous offensive movement preliminary to the arrival of General Taliaferro; but subsequently the victory at Ocean Pond having taken place, in which it was supposed General Gardner, though not in immediate command, had taken an active part, I directed that officer to assume the chief command, and dividing his forces into divisions, to assign General Taliaferro to one of them; soon after which, however, I was advised by the War Department of the assignment of Maj. Gen. J. Patton Anderson to the command of the forces in the State of Florida.

General D. H. Hill having arrived at these headquarters on the 28th ultimo, I left for Florida the same evening. Although that officer was unwilling, for personal reasons, to assume the duty at once I had desired to intrust to him (the immediate command of the troops in the State of South Carolina), he promised to repair to any point threatened or attacked by the enemy and give the officer there in command the benefit of his experience and assistance.

On the 2d instant, I reached Camp Milton, General Gardner's headquarters, in rear of McGirt's Creek, 12 or 13 miles distant from Jacksonville, where I found our troops in position. The day preceding our advanced pickets had been thrown forward to Cedar Creek, within 6 or 7 miles of Jacksonville.

On the 3d, Maj. Gen. J. Patton Anderson also arrived at Camp Milton, and assumed command on the 6th instant of the forces, now about 8,000 effectives, of all arms. In the mean time it had been ascertained from reliable sources that the enemy occupied Jacksonville with at least 12,000 men; that the position, naturally strong, had been much strengthened since the battle of the 20th ultimo, and that four or five gun-boats in the Saint John's effectually commanded the approaches to the place. Under these circumstances it was determined not to attempt to carry the position by assault, as in effect instructed by your telegram of the 4th instant.

Everything indicates that the rout of the enemy at Ocean Pond, or Olustee, was complete; nevertheless, the fruits of the victory were comparatively insignificant, and mainly because of the inefficiency of the officer commanding the cavalry at the time, in consequence of whose lack of energy and capacity for the service no serious attempt was made to pursue with his command, while the exhaustion of the infantry, so gallantly and effectively handled and engaged, and our want of subsistence supplies and ammunition, made an immediate pursuit by them impracticable. Unless our present forces should be considerably increased and amply supplied with means for a regular siege of Jacksonville, our operations in that quarter must be confined to the defensive—that is, to prevent-

ing the penetration of the enemy into the interior, either on the line toward Lake City or into the lower portion of the State, to which end a position has been selected on the Saint John's a few miles above Jacksonville for a battery of one rifled 32-pounder, three rifled 30-pounder, one 20-pounder, and one 10-pounder Parrotts, and two 8-inch siege howitzers, by which, with torpedoes in the river, it is expected transports at least can be obstructed from passing with troops beyond Jacksonville. Cavalry pickets have been also established for the protection of the railroad to Cedar Keys from injury by raiding expeditions set on foot from the west bank of the Saint John's.

I have for the present organized the forces under General Anderson into three brigades, commanded, respectively, by Brigadier-Generals Finegan and Colquitt and Col. George P. Harrison, jr., three meritorious officers, the last two of whom have won promotion by their active participation in the combat of the 20th ultimo, at which it is proper to say Brigadier-General Colquitt commanded on the immediate field of battle. He has seen much service, likewise, in the Army of Northern Virginia.

The cavalry has also been organized into a brigade under Col. Robert H. Anderson. The four light batteries of four pieces each were placed under command of Lieut. Col. Charles C. Jones, and two batteries of siege guns (six pieces) present on the field under Maj. George L. Buist. It is hoped this arrangement will enhance the efficiency of the troops, who are in fine spirits and good condition.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to the brave officers and men who encountered and defeated twice their number at Ocean Pond, and I commend them to the notice of the Government. They are in all respects worthy comrades of those who on other fields have done honor to Southern manhood.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adj. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.*

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No. 17.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, C. S. Army, commanding  
District of East Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*Lake City, February 13, 1864.*

GENERAL : I have the honor to report that the command of Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick, which was charged upon by the enemy and dispersed at Camp Finegan, on the night of the 8th instant, has nearly all reached this place. I think that the enemy have not captured more than 5 or 6 of our men. Two officers are missing—Captain Eichelberger and Lieutenant Barco—who were sick at the time, and are supposed to be in the enemy's hands. The camp and garrison equipage of the command, with very few stores, were lost. The garrison escaped in the darkness of the night.

I learn from an abolition prisoner, captured on the night in question, that the enemy moved upon Camp Finegan with the following force: One hundred and fifteenth New York, Colonel Sammon (this regiment was captured at Harper's Ferry); Forty-eighth New York, Colonel Barton; Forty-seventh New York, colonel's name not known; Fifty-sixth New York, colonel's name not known; Pennsylvania Negro regiment; Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, and 10 pieces of artillery. This force, after dispersing the small command at Camp Finegan, moved rapidly on to Baldwin and occupied that place on Tuesday morning, the 9th instant. On Wednesday they moved as far as the Little Saint Mary's, when they were met by Major Harrison with two companies of cavalry, who were marching from Camp Cooper (near Fernandina) to this place, and being unaware of the force of the enemy, gave them battle at a strong position. The enemy's loss at this point, as reported by a woman, whom they have permitted to come through their lines, was 15 killed and 30 wounded. We lost 2 killed and 2 wounded, the latter in the enemy's hands. The enemy's wounded are at a hospital at Barber's place, which they have established for their reception. This is near the Little Saint Mary's. The enemy advanced immediately and occupied Sanderson, our troops burning 1,500 bushels of corn, the only stores left at that place. There had been a large amount of commissary and quartermaster stores at that point, but they had all been removed, with the exception of the corn, on the preceding day. The enemy remained one night at Sanderson, and on the following morning moved upon this place, arriving at my hastily constructed works at 10 a. m., evidently confident of entering the place without much difficulty. They advanced only their mounted infantry and four pieces of artillery to attack this place, leaving their infantry at Baldwin and on the Little Saint Mary's. Citizens who live upon the road over which they passed agree in representing the force that marched on this place at 1,400 mounted men and four pieces of artillery. Their artillery was not used.

As I suggested in my letter of the 10th instant, the plan of the enemy was to advance so rapidly as to prevent the concentration of my scattered command or such re-enforcements as might reach me. Fortunately, however, a part of the troops from Middle Florida arrived, and with one or two companies collected together, amounting in all to 491 infantry and 110 cavalry, with two pieces of artillery, the further progress of the enemy was prevented.

I have thus given you a hasty sketch of operations since the enemy made his landing at Jacksonville. He has captured no stores, taken but few prisoners, and we have lost but 2 men killed and 2 wounded. We lost at Camp Finegan 2 pieces of artillery of Captain Dunham's battery, and 3 pieces of Captain Abell's battery.

This expedition is really formidable, and, organized as it is with so large a force of cavalry or mounted infantry, threatens disastrous results, unless checked at once by a sufficient force. The enemy is fortifying Baldwin, and also, I understand, a position on the Little Saint Mary's. I should have more cavalry to prevent their superior mounted force from making raids into the rich counties of Alachua and Marion, and not only running off the negroes by the Saint John's River, but destroying the large amounts of sugar and sirup which has not yet been sent to market. The supply of beef from the peninsula will of course be suspended until the enemy is driven out.



I am intrenched at the Olustee to-night and have about 1,800 infantry, 450 cavalry, and two batteries, and one section of artillery. It is hardly prudent to move forward against so large a cavalry force, who can operate by forced marches in the night on my line of communication and perhaps cut me off from Middle Florida, by making a detour through the country and a sudden descent on the bridge over the Suwannee, at Columbus, where I have but 30 men.

I have no doubt that the commanding general appreciates the situation of affairs in this district and will make such provision for its defense as the means at his command will allow. It is evident, however, that with the large and well-appointed force of the enemy, piloted by traitors familiar with every portion of the country, and knowing the position and strength of my command, the whole district will be ruined unless timely re-enforcements are sent forward. General Seymour is said to be in command of the abolition expedition.

I will act cautiously until the plans of the enemy are more fully developed. Their cavalry and artillery are at this time at Sanderson, some 10 miles from Olustee, and their infantry about 5 miles in their rear. They give me credit for a much larger force than I have. At Lake City they skirmished heavily with my forces for several hours till they discovered my works and artillery, when they withdrew and retreated to Sanderson. I was not, of course, in a position to follow.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH FINEGAN,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,

*Charleston, S. C., February 21, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the War Department.

All available troops have been dispatched from Georgia, Middle Florida, and South Carolina to the assistance of Brigadier-General Finegan, in view of the importance of the resources of that section and of the apparent opportunity of striking the enemy an effective blow. There will soon be concentrated there about 8,000 men of all arms of the service, including at least 1,800 cavalry. Brigadier-General Taliaferro has been sent to assume command for the present and organize the troops into three brigades of infantry, with the cavalry and infantry embodied, respectively, under proper officers.

Brigadier-General Gardner, I have just learned by telegraph, has repaired to Lake City from Middle Florida, and I have directed him to assume command until the arrival of Brigadier-General Taliaferro, who has my verbal and written instructions as to line of operations. Had I been confident of Brigadier-General Gardner's physical ability for the field (an active command), as I have great confidence in his soldierly qualities, I should have ordered him to the spot at once, but he had but recently been in Augusta for a surgical operation, and I feared he was unequal physically to the place.

I shall in a few days hasten to the scene, and hope to be able to take the offensive at once. A rigid investigation shall be made into the circumstances under which the command of Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick was surprised and dispersed and their guns captured.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

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TALLAHASSEE, FLA., *February 21, 1864.*  
(Received 22d.)

To the PRESIDENT:

Have just received the following dispatch from General Finegan, dated yesterday:

I met the enemy in full force to-day, under General Seymour, and defeated him with great loss. I captured 5 pieces of artillery; hold possession of the battle-field and the killed and wounded of the enemy. My cavalry are in pursuit. I don't know precisely the number of prisoners, as they are being brought in constantly. My whole loss will not, I think, exceed 250 killed and wounded. Among them I mourn the loss of many brave officers and men.

I understand General Finegan also captured many small-arms.  
JNO. MILTON,  
*Governor.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*Sanderson, February 23, 1864.*

GENERAL: I had the honor to report by telegraph that the enemy had abandoned his position at Barber's place, on the Little Saint Mary's River. I pressed forward my cavalry force last night in the direction of Baldwin. I have received no report from them yet, but think that the enemy has abandoned Baldwin and retired to Jacksonville. The enemy destroyed the railroad at this place for about three-quarters of a mile, burning a portion of the iron. This delays my movements one day. I occupy Barber's place this morning with my infantry, and my cavalry are in the vicinity of Baldwin. From all that I can learn the enemy suffered severely in the late engagement and are greatly demoralized. The reports of brigade and regimental commanders are not yet in. I will forward my report as soon as those are received. I have several hundred of the enemy's wounded, white and black. I am unable to state the exact number at present, as the ambulances were still engaged in removing them from the field when I left Ocean Pond yesterday morning.

Great credit is due Brigadier-General Colquitt, Colonel Harrison, and the officers and men of their several commands for their distinguished bravery in the late engagement against superior numbers. I will take pleasure in bringing the names of the officers more particularly to the notice of the commanding general in my detailed report.

Colonel Anderson, with the Fifth Georgia Cavalry, has not yet arrived. If I had had a sufficient cavalry force I could have captured a very large number of the enemy, as their rout was complete. I respectfully request that a full supply of ammunition for this command be forwarded as soon as possible. The ordnance

office has urged it forward for several days, but it has not yet arrived. Not a single man of my command was captured by the enemy, so far as I can learn.

I have forwarded 150 prisoners (not wounded) to Major-General Gilmer, with a request that he would dispose of them as the commanding general may direct. Among them are 3 negroes. What shall I do with the large number of the enemy's wounded in my hands? Many of these are negroes. I have one major, of the First North Carolina (negro) Regiment, and some other officers. A complete list will be forwarded as soon as it can be prepared.

The returns will show that I will have more wounded than I at first supposed. The list will probably reach between 600 and 700, 300 or 400 of whom will be fit for duty in a few weeks, being but slight flesh wounds. I think that we encountered nearly the entire force of the enemy in this district.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH FINEGAN,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff, Charleston, S. C.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,

*Baldwin, February 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my command occupied this place yesterday, the enemy having retreated to Jacksonville, burning the warehouse containing his stores. Before leaving they threw into a small pond at this place 120 boxes of ammunition. My ordnance officer has recovered the balls, the powder, of course, being destroyed. Everything indicates a hasty flight on the part of the enemy. My cavalry are in front, with orders to proceed to the vicinity of Jacksonville and watch their movements.

The abolitionists will either reorganize on a much larger scale and come out again, or retire to some other field. They had brought a locomotive around from Fernandina to Jacksonville, with the intention of using it on the roads that cross at this point. I will have at this position two railroads for the supply of my command.

Colonel Anderson, with the Fifth Georgia Cavalry, has not yet arrived. If he had been the victory would have been much more complete. All that I wanted was an efficient cavalry force to have captured a large number of the enemy.

Brigadier-General Gardner informed me from Tallahassee that he had been ordered by the commanding general to take command of the troops operating in this district. I replied that it would give me pleasure to serve under General Gardner or any other superior officer whom the commanding general might assign to the command, as soon as he should arrive in the district and assume the responsibility of the movements and supply of the troops, but that in the mean time the interests of the service required that I should command until my successor arrived. A copy of this letter I had the honor to forward yesterday, for the information of the commanding general. I submitted it to Colonel Harris and Major Lay, of the commanding general's staff, and they both concurred in the propriety of my decision.



The fact is, no officer residing at Tallahassee or Quincy can intelligently control an army in this portion of the State with an active enemy in front. I trust that my action in this matter will meet the approval of the commanding general. I have acted in the manner which I considered best calculated to promote the good of the service. It is not for me to question the reason that induced the commanding general to order General Gardner to control the movements of the troops in East Florida from his headquarters in Tallahassee or Quincy, after the enemy had been signally defeated and driven back to Jacksonville, and perhaps on board of his transports. As soon as a superior officer arrives in this district I will cheerfully turn over the command and render him every assistance in my power.

The enemy are being watched at Jacksonville, and I will report their movements to-morrow or the next day. As soon as Colonel Anderson arrives a cavalry force will be sent toward Palatka to prevent raids in that direction.

General Seymour sent a flag of truce yesterday from Jacksonville, with a letter, which, with a copy of my reply, I herewith inclose.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH FINEGAN,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff.*

[Indorsements.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,

*Charleston, S. C., March 4, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the War Department.

THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff.*

(In absence of General Beauregard.)

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

*March 14, 1864.*

Respectfully submitted to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

Please refer to the remarks of General Finegan in regard to General Gardner.

SAML. W. MELTON,

*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,

*Jacksonville, Fla., February 23, 1864.*

*To the general commanding the Confederate Forces, Florida:*

SIR: In view of the inconveniences to which the wounded prisoners in your hands since the action of the 20th, near Olustee, Fla., may be unavoidably subjected, I have the honor to propose that they may be paroled and delivered within my lines as soon as possible, and Capt. G. S. Dana, of my staff, the bearer of this communication, is authorized to make such arrangements therefor as may be convenient, and a horse-car or ambulance will be sent for the wounded at such times as may be designated, should this proposal be acceded to.

The body of Col. C. W. Fribley was left upon the field at Olustee. If there have been any means of identifying his person, I request that his grave may be so marked that at some future day his family may be able to remove his remains.

And I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*Baldwin, Fla., February 24, 1864.*

Brig. Gen T. SEYMOUR,  
*Commanding U. S. Forces, Jacksonville :*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 23d instant, proposing that the wounded prisoners left by you on the field of battle at Ocean Pond, on the 20th instant, be paroled and sent within your lines, and requesting that if the body of Col. C. W. Fribley, left on the ground, could be identified, his grave might be so marked that his family at some future day may be able to remove his remains.

In reply I have to state that the wounded prisoners have been sent forward and properly taken care of, to await the future action of my Government with reference to an exchange of prisoners.

I regret to say that the body of Colonel Fribley has not been identified.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*In the Field, 12 miles from Jacksonville, February 26, 1864.*

GENERAL: For the information of the commanding general I have the honor to report that on the evening of February 7 the enemy landed at Jacksonville, from eighteen transports and gun-boats, a large force of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, which was largely augmented by arrivals on the 8th instant. On the receipt of this intelligence I immediately notified Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick, commanding an effective force of near 350 men, of all arms, at Camp Finegan, to guard against a surprise, advising him that I would join the command as soon as I had issued the necessary orders for collecting my widely scattered troops and dispatched telegrams and letters for re-enforcements.

On the night of the 8th instant, the enemy advanced from Jacksonville with great rapidity in three heavy columns, cavalry in the advance, artillery and infantry following, under command of Brigadier-General Seymour. They approached Camp Finegan as the command there were in the act of retiring. Their largely superior numbers deterred Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick, commanding, from attacking them, and in the darkness of the night he withdrew his command with caution and address and joined me at Camp Beauregard, near Ocean Pond, on the Olustee, on the 13th instant. The enemy with celerity pressed on to Baldwin, capturing on their way 5 guns of Companies A and B, Milton Light Artillery, which

had been ordered to Baldwin. Reached Baldwin at daylight on the 9th instant. Remaining a short time, they continued on to Barber's the same night. At this point they were met on the 10th instant by two companies of cavalry under Maj. Robert Harrison, Second Florida Cavalry, whom I had ordered to join me, and who, with much gallantry, checked their progress for several hours at the Saint Mary's Crossing, with but small loss to us and a considerable loss to the enemy.

On the 9th instant, I removed all the Government stores from Sanderson, except 1,500 bushels corn, which was burned under my orders.

On the 10th, the enemy reached Sanderson. On the 11th instant, they were within 3 miles of Lake City. Here I had hastily collected, principally from the District of Middle Florida, a small force of 490 infantry, 110 cavalry, and two pieces of artillery. On the night of the 10th, I placed this force in a favorable position,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Lake City, in the direction of the enemy. At 9.30 the enemy advanced upon us with a force estimated to be 1,400 mounted infantry and five pieces of artillery. Here they opened upon us, fighting as infantry, and skirmished heavily with my advance line. Discovering my position and its strength, and probably presuming my force larger than it was, they retreated to Sanderson, thence to Barber's, on the east bank of the Saint Mary's, where they constructed field-works and concentrated their whole force for a final movement on Lake City.

In the mean time I used every possible effort to gather re-enforcements, and on the 13th, moved to Ocean Pond, on Olustee, 13 miles from Lake City, and occupied the only strong position between Lake City and Barber's. Here I had field-works thrown up, and for several days, with a force less than 2,000 strong, awaited the enemy's advance.

In this time my command was increased by the arrival of re-enforcements, and I organized the command as follows: The Sixth, Nineteenth, Twenty-third, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth Georgia Regiments Infantry and Sixth Florida Battalion Infantry, as the First Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General Colquitt, with the Chatham Artillery (four guns) attached. The Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, First Georgia Regulars, Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, First Florida Battalion, and Bonaud's battalion, as the Second Brigade, under command of Col. George P. Harrison, Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, with Guerard's light battery attached, the Florida Light Artillery being held in reserve. I assigned Col. R. B. Thomas, C. S. Army, to duty as chief of artillery, and organized the cavalry into a brigade, under the command of Col. Caraway Smith, Second Florida Cavalry, my whole effective force being as follows: Infantry, 4,600; cavalry, less than 600; artillery, 3 batteries—twelve guns.

On the 20th instant, the enemy advanced in three columns, since ascertained to have been twelve regiments of infantry (nine of white troops and three of black), estimated at 8,000, and some artillery (number of guns unknown), and 1,400 cavalry. At 12 m., the enemy were within 3 miles of my position. I ordered the cavalry, under Col. C. Smith, Second Florida Cavalry, supported by the Sixty-fourth Georgia, Colonel Evans commanding, and two companies of the Thirty-second Georgia, to advance and skirmish with the enemy and draw them to our works. The remaining force was placed



under arms and prepared for action. Apprehending that the enemy was too cautious to approach our works, I ordered Brigadier-General Colquitt, commanding First Brigade, to advance with three of his regiments and a section of Gamble's artillery, and assume command of the entire force then ordered to the front and feel the enemy by skirmishing, and if he was not in too heavy force to press him heavily. I had previously instructed Colonel Smith, commanding cavalry, to fall back as our infantry advanced and protect their flanks. This movement was predicated on the information that the enemy had only three regiments of infantry, with some cavalry and artillery. Perceiving that in this movement the force under Brigadier-General Colquitt's command might become too heavily engaged to withdraw without a large supporting force, and intending that if the enemy should prove to be in not too great strength to engage them, I ordered in quick succession, within the space of an hour, the whole command to advance to the front as a supporting force, and myself went upon the field. These re-enforcements were pushed rapidly forward, and, as I anticipated, reached the field at the moment when the line was most heavily pressed, and at a time when their presence gave confidence to our men and discouragement to the enemy.

I directed Lieutenant-Colonel Hopkins, commanding First Florida Battalion, and Major Bonaud, commanding Bonaud's battalion, to fall into line on the left in the direction of the enemy's heaviest firing. After I had ordered these re-enforcements, and they were some distance on the way to the front, and while I was myself on the way to the front, I received from Brigadier-General Colquitt, commanding in the front, a request for the re-enforcements which had already been ordered.

The engagement became general very soon after its commencement. The enemy were found in heavy force, their infantry drawn up in three supporting lines, their artillery in position, cavalry on their flanks and rear. I ordered Brigadier-General Colquitt to press them with vigor, which he did with much judgment and gallantry. They contested the ground stubbornly, and the battle lasted for four and a half hours. At the end of this time, the enemy's lines having been broken and reformed several times, and two fine Napoleon and three 10-pounder Parrott guns and one set of colors captured from them, they gave way entirely, and were closely pressed for 3 miles until night-fall. I directed Brigadier-General Colquitt to continue the pursuit, intending to occupy Sanderson that night; but in deference to his suggestion of the fatigue of the troops, the absence of rations, and the disadvantages of the pursuit in the dark, and in consequence of a report from an advanced cavalry picket that the enemy had halted for the night and taken a position (which was subsequently ascertained to be incorrect), I withdrew the order. During the continuance of the battle, also after the enemy had given way, I sent repeated orders to Colonel Smith, commanding cavalry, to press the enemy on his flanks and to continue in the pursuit. But through some misapprehension these orders failed to be executed by him, and only two small companies on the left, and these but for a short distance, followed the enemy.

The enemy retreated that night, hastily and in some confusion, to Sanderson, leaving a large number of their killed and wounded in our possession on the field. Their loss in killed, both officers and men, was large. Four hundred and eighteen of their wounded were

removed by us from the field, and 400, or near that number, of their killed were buried by us; also nearly 200 prisoners were captured; several officers of high rank were killed and others severely wounded. Their loss cannot be less than 2,000 or 2,500 men, 5 superior guns, 1 set of colors captured, and 1,600 stand of arms; also 130,000 rounds cartridges (damaged by having been thrown into water), as appears by the report of the ordnance officer, herewith inclosed.

The victory was complete and the enemy retired in rapid retreat, evacuating in quick succession Barber's and Baldwin, and falling back on Jacksonville. The enemy's forces were under command of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, who was present on the field.

The conduct of Brigadier-General Colquitt entitles him to high commendation. He exhibited ability in the formation of his line and gallantry in his advance on the enemy. I have also to speak most favorably of Col. George P. Harrison, commanding Second Brigade, who exhibited in the engagement all the qualities of a capable and efficient officer. Col. R. B. Thomas, as chief of artillery, likewise rendered efficient service on the field. Colonel Evans, commanding Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, and Col. Duncan L. Clinch, commanding Fourth Georgia Cavalry, were wounded while bravely performing their duty. Lieutenant-Colonel Barrow, Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, and Captain Cannon, commanding, and Lieutenant Dancy, of the First Georgia Regulars; also Lieutenant Holland, commanding detachment from conscript camp, all officers of high promise, were killed.

Among the killed and wounded were many other officers and men who had distinguished themselves on other fields, for a detailed statement of whom, and for instances of individual merit, I refer to the reports of the brigade commanders. Our loss in the engagement was 93 killed and 841 wounded, a large proportion very slightly.

In the opening of the engagement the cavalry, under command of Colonel Smith, skirmished with the enemy with spirit and retired to the flanks in obedience to their orders.

On the 22d instant, having repaired the railroad so as to secure my supplies, I advanced the command to Sanderson, pushing the cavalry rapidly in the direction of the enemy, and from Sanderson to Barber's, and thence to Baldwin and to this place, 12 miles from Jacksonville, where my further progress was arrested by orders from Brigadier-General Gardner, who had been directed to assume command, by whom I was here for the first time officially notified that the command had been transferred. My efforts and those of my officers for the organization and concentration of a force adequate to meet the enemy's superior numbers, and to check them in their rapid advance, were incessant and arduous. I have the gratification of reporting to the commanding general that while I continued in command they were successful. I transfer the army to my successor well supplied with forage and subsistence, well organized and armed, and deficient only in ordnance stores, for which timely requisitions were made, and which are now on their way.

Respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff, Charleston, S. C.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Camp Milton, March 7, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Brig. Gen. W. M. Gardner, for his remarks relative to ordering the pursuit stopped on 22d instant at McGirt's Creek, on assuming command of the army.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding Department.*

[Second indorsement.]

NEAR MCGIRT'S CREEK, *March 7, 1864.*

Brigadier-General Finegan did not reach McGirt's Creek with the troops under his command until the night of the 26th ultimo. Having been placed in command, I felt I would be held responsible for any disaster that might befall the army. I halted the army on McGirt's Creek (a strong position) on the night of the 26th ultimo, in order that I might become acquainted with the state of things in front, and because I considered the moment for reaping the fruits of the signal success of the 20th ultimo had been allowed to escape, and the enemy had been allowed time not only to reorganize his defeated forces, but to receive re-enforcements and to strengthen the strong position at Jacksonville, where his gun-boats could be used against us, but more especially because of my utter want of confidence in the brigadier-general commanding to handle an army on the field of battle, as manifested under my own eye at the battle of Olustee. Likewise the short supply of ammunition made it advisable to await further supplies before risking another engagement, which engagement would have been to attack the enemy in his intrenched position around Jacksonville.

• W. M. GARDNER,  
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

TALLAHASSEE, *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Commanding, &c. :*

The following telegram from department headquarters is forwarded for your information :

CHARLESTON, *February 21, 1864.*

General W. M. GARDNER,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

The general did not know the state of your leg, and consequently your ability to take the field, or he would have ordered you to assume command in East Florida at once. Hence he ordered General Taliaferro there ; but please assume command until that officer should arrive, and organize fast as possible for offensive. Three regiments of infantry and two of cavalry are en route. Then turn command over to General Taliaferro, who has the general's instructions in full. The general commanding will be on the ground in a short time.

THOS. JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

The brigadier-general commanding, through courtesy and feelings of delicacy, does not desire to interfere with your views further than to stop offensive movements until the re-enforcements now en route reach you. He therefore directs you to take a strong position on the west bank of the Saint Mary's, provided the enemy have fallen back behind that river. You must have the river thoroughly pick-



able point at any convenient distance on your right flank for crossing your force and making a flank movement when directed. Construct works for artillery to command and defend this crossing.

Maj. G. W. Scott is appointed chief of the vedettes, and will be furnished with a detachment of 150 picked men, including 8 commissioned officers, for the purpose of watching the movements of the enemy and giving correct information.

In event the enemy is on this side of the Saint Mary's in force you are to act entirely on the defensive, and if strongly threatened to fall back on your intrenchments at Ocean Pond.

Acknowledge receipt of and keep General Gardner informed at this point of all movements.

J. L. CROSS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General Finegan stated on the morning of the 27th ultimo that he never received this communication.

J. L. CROSS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Tallahassee, February 23, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have sent you by telegraph a message from department headquarters, handed to me after leaving Lake City for this place, directing me to assume command of the forces now operating in East Florida until the arrival of General Taliaferro, who has been ordered to that command. I feel extreme delicacy in assuming command over an officer whose forces have gained so recently such signal success over the enemy, but the receipt of the telegram from the general commanding the department necessarily imposes upon me some responsibility for the future movement of our forces. I cannot but think that the moment for reaping the full benefit of your success has passed. The enemy has doubtless taken advantage of the interval since the battle of the 20th instant to reorganize his defeated forces, and he may not only have strongly intrenched himself, but may be receiving re-enforcements. In view of the fact that heavy re-enforcements, both of infantry and cavalry, are now en route and may soon be expected to arrive, it appears more prudent to act on the defensive for the present; but if, through Maj. G. W. Scott, appointed chief of the vedettes, or any other reliable information, you are convinced that no considerable body of the enemy are occupying a strong position between the Saint Mary's and Jacksonville, you will be authorized to cross that river with the main body of your forces, provided measures are taken to secure your safe retreat across the river if it should be found necessary to do so. Keep me advised by telegram of what is transpiring. Should General Taliaferro not arrive in a few days I will return to the front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. GARDNER,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

(Inclosure No. 3.)

## HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.

*Camp Calquitta, February 24, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. M. GARDNER,

*Comdg. District of Middle Florida, Quincy.*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 23d instant, informing me that you had received a telegram from the commanding general directing you to assume command of the forces operating in East Florida until the arrival of General Taliaferro, who has been ordered to the command, has been received. It will give me great pleasure to serve under either yourself, General Taliaferro, or any other superior officer whom the commanding general may assign to the command whenever he shall arrive in this district and assume the responsibilities of the movements and the supply of the troops. In the mean time the interests of the service require that I should continue to conduct the movements of this army till the arrival of my successor. It is proper to state that my advanced force is occupy[ing] Baldwin, and my whole force will be there to-day. The enemy are in Jacksonville, and perhaps on board their transports.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH FINEGAN,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

## HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE, March 18, 1864.

Maj. HENRY BRYAN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: In reply to your letter of 12th instant, I have the honor to say that my official report of the advance of the enemy mentions that five guns of Companies A and B, Milton Light Artillery, were captured. Four of these guns were captured at Pickett's house, on their way from Camp Finegan to Baldwin, and one at Baldwin, as appears by Captain Abell's report, herewith inclosed. In Captain Dunham's section there were 8 new horses purchased by the quartermaster's department to supply the places of horses condemned by a board of officers. The disease among the artillery horses referred to by Captain Abell had been treated by the best farriers in the country. A board of officers, composed of Colonel Thomas, Major Routh, and Captain Stewart, made a report on the nature of the disease among the artillery horses, which was sent to Major Mayo, at department headquarters, and Captain Fairbanks, assistant quartermaster, was ordered by the transportation department to inspect them, which was done. The chief quartermaster had orders to purchase horses to supply the place of the diseased ones, but orders were received about that time that none but officers of the transportation department could purchase or impress artillery horses. Captain Abell was under orders when the enemy arrived to remove his horses to Lake City for treatment. The horses for the section of Captain Dunham's battery were in good order, as they had been under treatment for eight or ten weeks at Lake City, and had just returned to Camp Finegan before the invasion by the enemy.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH FINEGAN,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding Brigade.*

[Enclosure.]

## DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

Camp Milton, March 18, 1864.

COLONEL: In compliance with your order of this date I have the honor to submit the following report:

In the retreat from Camp Finegan on February 8, I lost at the Twelve-Mile Station, 4 miles above the camp, two 3-inch iron rifled guns, and at Baldwin one 3-inch iron rifled gun. I can also state that Captain Dunham lost at the Twelve-Mile Station two 6-pounder bronze guns. I will further state that the condition of my horses was bad, and that when ordered to move my battery in retreat I was compelled to leave one of my caissons, forge, and battery wagon, in consequence of their condition, resulting from the effects of a disease prevailing among the battery horses at the time and the want of long forage.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

H. F. ABELL,

*Captain, Company C, B. Milton Light Art.*

Col. R. B. THOMAS.

*Adj. Gen. Assistant Adjutant-General.*

A. F. R. 1864.

*Consent of the Confederate forces at Clinton.**Report from Milton, Fla.*

Command	First		Second		Morgan		Aggregate
	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	
Company A	1	2	1	2			4
Company B	1	4	1	4			10
Company C	1	4	1	4			10
Company D	1	4	1	4			10
Company E	1	4	1	4			10
Company F	1	4	1	4			10
Company G	1	4	1	4			10
Company H	1	4	1	4			10
Company I	1	4	1	4			10
Company J	1	4	1	4			10
Company K	1	4	1	4			10
Company L	1	4	1	4			10
Company M	1	4	1	4			10
Company N	1	4	1	4			10
Company O	1	4	1	4			10
Company P	1	4	1	4			10
Company Q	1	4	1	4			10
Company R	1	4	1	4			10
Company S	1	4	1	4			10
Company T	1	4	1	4			10
Company U	1	4	1	4			10
Company V	1	4	1	4			10
Company W	1	4	1	4			10
Company X	1	4	1	4			10
Company Y	1	4	1	4			10
Company Z	1	4	1	4			10
Total	1	4	1	4			10
Company A	1	2	1	2			4
Company B	1	4	1	4			10
Company C	1	4	1	4			10
Company D	1	4	1	4			10
Company E	1	4	1	4			10
Company F	1	4	1	4			10
Company G	1	4	1	4			10
Company H	1	4	1	4			10
Company I	1	4	1	4			10
Company J	1	4	1	4			10
Company K	1	4	1	4			10
Company L	1	4	1	4			10
Company M	1	4	1	4			10
Company N	1	4	1	4			10
Company O	1	4	1	4			10
Company P	1	4	1	4			10
Company Q	1	4	1	4			10
Company R	1	4	1	4			10
Company S	1	4	1	4			10
Company T	1	4	1	4			10
Company U	1	4	1	4			10
Company V	1	4	1	4			10
Company W	1	4	1	4			10
Company X	1	4	1	4			10
Company Y	1	4	1	4			10
Company Z	1	4	1	4			10
Total	1	4	1	4			10
Grand Total	1	4	1	4			10

1. Capt. Thomas A. Hill.

2. Lieutenant Thomas.

3. Adjutant Thomas.

4. Capt. W. W. H. and Co's Florida company attached.

5. Capt. H. A. Thomas.

6. Lieut. J. S. James Smith and Lieut. J. A. Thomas formerly attached.



JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to General Finegan and the officers and men of his command.

*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America,*  
That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to  
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan and the officers and men of his com-  
mand, for the skill and gallantry displayed in achieving the signal  
victory of Ocean Pond, Fla., on the 20th of February last.

TH. S. BOCK, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

R. M. T. HUNTER, *President pro tempore of the Senate.*

Approved May 17, 1864.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Commanding, &c., Lake City, Fla. :*

I congratulate you and your brave officers on your brilliant victory over the enemy on the 20th instant. Your country will be cheered by this timely success, and I trust it is but the earnest of heavier and crushing blows which shall destroy our enemy on the soil of Florida.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

No. 18.

*Report of Lieut. M. B. Grant, C. S. Engineers, of engagement at Olustee.*

C. S. ENGINEER'S OFFICE,  
*Savannah, April 27, 1864.*

COLONEL : In obedience to your instructions, I have the honor to submit the following report upon the battle of Ocean Pond, fought February 20, near Ocean Pond, on the line of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Railroad, in Columbia County, Fla., between the Confederate forces under Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan and the Federal forces under Brigadier-General Seymour :

Having been ordered to report to General Finegan, I left Savannah on February 15 and arrived at Olustee Station on the evening of the 17th, where I found our army encamped on a line extending from Ocean Pond, on the left, to the large cypress pond, on the right, as designated in the accompanying sketch\* on the line A B. General Finegan had selected this position as the only one which furnished in itself any natural advantages for defense, and upon a thorough reconnaissance of the country on the following day I became satisfied that the selection was a good one, this being the only point offering any advantages whatever between Lake City and the south prong of the Saint Mary's River, which latter place being at that time in possession of the enemy, who had established themselves along the line of this creek preparatory to an advance.

I would here remark that the country along the line of railroad from the Suwannee River east is exceedingly low and flat, with but few streams, and those of so insignificant a character as to be of but

little assistance to a defense or obstacle to an advance; in fact, the only natural features which could be taken advantage of for purposes of defense are the bays and ponds which are to be found to a greater or less degree throughout this entire section of country. Upon my arrival I found there had been no engineer officer in General Finegan's command, and consequently no organization of that department. I found no laboring force or tools, and I proceeded at once, by authority of General Finegan, to impress the required negroes and to collect such tools as might be procured from the surrounding plantations.

Previous to the arrival of Major Clarke, Corps of Engineers, on the evening of the 18th, I had determined to make an intrenched camp of Olustee, with the view to a further advance of our forces, also as a depot of supplies and position upon which to retire, should it become necessary, and had made my plans accordingly. By his direction, however, I laid out that portion of the line only as represented on sketch.

On the 19th instant, I commenced work upon this line with a detail of soldiers. This force was necessarily small and inadequate, owing to the want of tools, having at that time only one dozen axes and two dozen spades.

Previous to my arrival two small works had been thrown up as designated on sketch at C and D, under direction of Major Bonaud, Second Florida Battalion [Twenty-eighth Georgia]. The parapet to these works was 6 feet wide, composed of logs covered with earth, and having a relief of about 4 feet 6 inches. The left of the line as laid out rested upon Ocean Pond, a sheet of water some 4 miles long by 2 to 2½ miles wide, this furnishing a secure protection on the left. In front of this line and to the left of the railroad an open pond, averaging 250 yards in width, extended to within 300 yards of Ocean Pond. This ground was entirely impracticable, adding greatly to the strength of this portion of the line. To the right of the railroad, and at an average distance of 400 yards in advance of our line, there extended a thick bay, impassable except within 200 yards on the right of the railroad. This bay continued, as seen in sketch, to right of line with but one crossing at the road between bay and pond. Intervening between this bay and our line was an open field over which the enemy would have to advance in approaching the works. The right of the line, though not so well covered as the left, was still very much strengthened by the large pond which continued some 2 miles on the right, for which distance it was only practicable for infantry at a few points, and these crossings exceedingly difficult. This line of works, had they been completed, would have proven very strong against a direct attack, but was liable to the same difficulty which presents itself in the occupation of any position in this country, viz, the practicability of turning it by a detour of a few miles. While working upon this line and preparing for a defense at Olustee, the battle was most unexpectedly brought on 2½ miles in advance of the position selected, under the following circumstances:

Early on the morning of the 20th, the enemy left their position on Saint Mary's River and advanced in force—variously estimated at from 9,000 to 12,000—one column by the railroad and the other by the Lake City and Jacksonville road, the distance from Saint Mary's River to Olustee being about 19 or 20 miles. Only a short time previous the enemy's cavalry penetrated the country as far as Lake

City, near which place a skirmish took place between them and the few scattered troops which General Finegan then had at his disposal. Their cavalry doubtless reported that we had no troops, and it was owing to this fact, I suppose, that their main advance was conducted so rapidly, and being under the impression, which they certainly were, that they would meet with but little opposition. Fortunately, however, for our cause General Beauregard, knowing their designs, had, in the interim between their cavalry raid and main advance, collected at Olustee an army of 4,000 veterans.

On the morning of the 20th, General Finegan having received information of the enemy's advance, the Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment was ordered to the front to reconnoiter their position, and, if possible, discover their force. The Sixty-fourth took up a position at the crossing of the Lake City road with the railroad, 2½ miles from Olustee, and were soon engaged with the enemy, who had advanced to this point in three columns, having formed a third column after crossing the branch where the roads fork. They were now drawn up in line of battle. It becoming necessary to re-enforce the Sixty-fourth, General Alfred H. Colquitt took the field, and bringing up the Sixth, Twenty-eighth, and Nineteenth Georgia Regiments, with two pieces of Gamble's battery, deployed these four regiments in line of battle and fairly opened the fight. (See second position on sketch.) This was 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Colonel (acting brigadier-general) Harrison having now arrived with the Thirty-second Georgia, First Georgia Regulars, and Sixth Florida, our line of battle was reformed, with the addition of Wheaton's battery (four pieces), and advanced, driving the enemy from their first position and occupying the third position, as represented on sketch. The horses in Gamble's battery having become disabled and unmanageable, his battery was obliged to retire. While our forces were in this position the enemy attempted a flank movement on our left, in which they failed from want of a knowledge of the ground, for, becoming entangled in the large bay on our left, they were forced to retire without accomplishing their object.

In the meanwhile our forces on the right drove in their left and captured the five guns (as shown in sketch), our forces now occupying the fourth position. At this point, our entire line having exhausted their ammunition, and the Twenty-seventh Georgia, First Florida, and Bonaud's battalion having come up, were placed in front to hold the enemy in check while a new supply of ammunition was being distributed, which having been accomplished our entire line advanced, driving the enemy before them. Just as our forces were assuming their fourth position one section of Guerard's battery came up and took position on the left of Wheaton's, the other section having already been stationed on the right, the battle having lasted three hours, and every inch of ground having been hotly contested from the road crossing to this point.

The battle-field was confined entirely to the open pine woods, with the exception of the pond and old field, as represented on sketch. At the latter place the fighting was very severe. At one time the enemy attempted to mass their troops here, and were driven off, as I understand from Colonel Harrison, by the Sixth and Thirty-second Georgia Regiments, who, by his order, took up a position on their right, gaining a destructive flank fire on them. Our forces pursued the enemy for a distance of 2 miles to the branch, when,



night coming on, they were obliged to abandon the pursuit. Our cavalry operated on the flanks of the enemy during the engagement, but did not pursue them beyond a few miles, which is to be regretted, as it is probable that in the disorganized and demoralized condition of the enemy we might have captured a large proportion of their troops, if not destroyed their army.

The infantry fire during the whole engagement was continuous, and on our side very effective. The artillery fire on both sides, judging from the marks upon the trees, was entirely too high, and did comparatively little damage. Our men sheltered themselves behind the trees, as was evident from the number who were wounded in the arms and hands, thus gaining considerable advantage over the enemy, who used the trees to a less extent.

This fight occurred upon ground which furnished a fair field to both parties, and no advantage to either. The advantage of the enemy upon this occasion consisted in the superiority of numbers and equipment. Their force was, at the lowest estimate, twice that of ours. As usual with the enemy, they posted their negro regiments on their left and in front, where they were slain by hundreds, and upon retiring left their dead and wounded negroes uncared for, carrying off only the whites, which accounts for the fact that upon the first part of the battle-field nearly all the dead found were negroes.

This victory, like many others, was mainly due to the superior fighting qualities of our troops, their determination and unflinching valor. So far as I was able to learn there was no preconceived plan of battle or combined movement of our troops after General Colquitt put them in position on the field.

To General Colquitt and Colonel Harrison, who commanded on the left, am I mainly indebted for much valuable information in reference to the positions and movements of our troops, which aided me much in arranging my sketch, as also in the account of the battle.

The entire plan of battle on our part, as represented on sketch, is compiled from my own observation in part, and from careful inquiry among the principal officers engaged in the fight, and may be relied on as accurate. The topography of the ground is taken from a personal reconnaissance by myself, and is correct. I was upon the battle-field during the last hour of the fight, having been engaged upon the works at Olustee during the first portion. Major Clarke having been on the battle-field during the engagement, and thus being conversant with its details from personal observation, regards this sketch as correct as possible, considering that no regular survey was made of the ground.

Mr. G. W. Killen, assistant engineer, who accompanied me to Florida, rendered efficient and faithful service.

Upon the fourth day after the battle our forces advanced to Sanderson, where you found us upon your arrival.

I found it necessary to a thorough explanation and understanding of my sketch to describe, in so far as I have done, the principal positions and movements of our regiments and battalions.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. B. GRANT,

*Lieutenant, Corps of Engineers.*

Col. D. B. HARRIS,

*Chief Engineer, Dept. of S. Carolina, Georgia, and Fla.*

## No. 19.

*Reports of Lieut. T. E. Buckman, Ordnance Officer, of engagement at Olustee.*

HEADQUARTERS FORCES IN FLORIDA,  
*Saint Mary's, February 24, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following summary report of ordnance and ordnance stores captured from the enemy in the late battle at Ocean Pond:

Pieces of artillery:	
12-pounder Napoleons.....	3
10-pounder Parrotts.....	2
Total .....	5
Small-arms, various calibers.....	1,600
Rounds of small-arm ammunition.....	130,000

The latter unserviceable by being thrown in the water by the enemy.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

T. E. BUCKMAN,

*Lieutenant and Ordnance Officer.*

Brigadier-General FINEGAN,  
*Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS FORCES IN FLORIDA,  
*Ordnance Office, March 4, 1864.*

I have the honor to make the following report, for the information of the commanding general, of the ordnance and ordnance stores captured at the late battle near Ocean Pond, and also of the present armament of the infantry and cavalry troops of this command:

Ordnance and ordnance stores gathered from the field and on the line of the enemy's retreat:

Napoleon guns.....	3
Ten-pounder Parrott guns.....	2
Small-arms .....	1,600
Accouterments, sets (estimated).....	400
Small-arm ammunition (rounds).....	130,000

The guns were disposed of as follows:

To Captain Wheaton, Chatham Artillery, Napoleons .....	2
To Captain Gamble, Florida artillery, Napoleons.....	1
To Captain Guerard, Georgia artillery, 10-pounder Parrotts .....	2

Three-fourths of the small-arms are serviceable and of good kind and quality, and as fast as cleaned and put in order are being exchanged with the troops for the less effective arms, and according to the kind of ammunition I am best able to obtain. The accouterments are mostly fit for service and on hand with the exception of some few issues. A correct account of the number of each kind and caliber of arms and condition for service will be furnished in a day or two, as soon as the assorting is completed.

The enemy destroyed the small-arm ammunition, in a measure, by

sorted from it with as little delay as possible, and dried, and are serviceable. The balls and damaged powder are being sent to the ordnance officer at Savannah.

The infantry are fully armed with good arms, with a very few exceptions that will be supplied to-morrow. The cavalry are also armed as far as I have been able to receive returns, although some are inferior. These will be changed as early as practicable.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

T. E. BUCKMAN,

*Lieutenant and Chief of Ordnance.*

Maj. J. L. CROSS,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 20.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Colquitt, C. S. Army, commanding  
First Brigade, of engagement at Olustee.*

BALDWIN, FLA., February 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to submit the following account of the engagement of the 20th instant, near Ocean Pond :

Intelligence having been received of the approach of the enemy, I was instructed to take three regiments of my own brigade, with a section of Gamble's artillery, and proceed to the front and assume command of all the forces which had preceded me, consisting of two regiments of cavalry, under command of Colonel Smith ; the Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment, and two companies of the Thirty-second Georgia Regiment. Subsequently other troops were sent forward, and I was directed to call for such re-enforcements as might be needed.

About 2 miles from Olustee Station I found the enemy advancing rapidly and our cavalry retiring before them. I threw forward a party of skirmishers and hastily formed line of battle under a brisk fire from the enemy's advance. The Nineteenth Georgia was placed on the right and the Twenty-eighth Georgia on the left, with a section of Captain Gamble's artillery in the center. The Sixty-fourth Georgia and the two companies of the Thirty-second Georgia were formed on the left of the Twenty-eighth, and the Sixth Georgia Regiment was sent still farther to the left to prevent a flank movement of the enemy in that direction. Instructions were sent to Colonel Smith, commanding cavalry, to place his regiments on the extreme flanks and to guard against any movement of the enemy from either side.

The line of infantry was then ordered to advance, which was gallantly done, the enemy contesting the ground and giving way slowly. Perceiving that the enemy were in strong force, I sent back for re-enforcements and a fresh supply of ammunition. The Sixth Florida Battalion and Twenty-third Georgia Regiment soon arrived for my support. The Sixth Florida Battalion was formed on the right of the Nineteenth Georgia and in such position as to come in on the left flank of the enemy. The Twenty-third Georgia was put on the left of the Sixty-fourth Georgia. Colonel Harrison, coming up with the Thirty-second and First Georgia Regiments, took



position on the left; between the Twenty-third and Sixth Georgia Regiments, and was instructed to assume the general direction of the left of the line.

The section of Gamble's artillery in the center having been disabled by the loss of horses and injury to limber, Captain Wheaton, who had early arrived upon the field with the Chatham Artillery and had taken position on the right, was ordered to the center to relieve Captain Gamble. This battery moved forward and took position under a heavy fire, and continued to advance with the line of infantry until the close of the action. Toward night, when Captain Wheaton's ammunition was almost expended, a section of Guerard's battery, of Harrison's brigade, under Lieutenant Gigniliat, moved up and opened fire on the enemy, furnishing Captain Wheaton with part of his ammunition.

After our line had advanced about one-quarter of a mile the engagement became general and the ground was stubbornly contested. With two batteries of artillery immediately in our front and a long line of infantry strongly supported, the enemy stood their ground for some time, until the Sixth Florida Battalion, on the right flank, and all the troops in front pressing steadily forward, compelled them to fall back and leave five pieces of artillery in our possession. At this time, our ammunition beginning to fail, I ordered the commanding officers to halt their regiments and hold their respective positions until a fresh supply could be brought from the ordnance wagons, which, after much delay, had arrived upon the field.

Major Bonaud's battalion came upon the field, followed soon after by the Twenty-seventh Georgia Regiment and the First Florida Battalion. These troops were put in position near the center of the line and a little in advance, to hold the enemy in check until the other commands could be supplied with cartridges. As soon as this was accomplished I ordered a general advance, at the same time sending instructions to Colonel Harrison to move the Sixth and Thirty-second Georgia Regiments around on the right flank of the enemy. The Twenty-seventh Georgia Regiment, under Colonel Zachry, pushing forward with great vigor upon the center, and the whole line moving as directed, the enemy gave way in confusion. We continued the pursuit for several miles, when night put an end to the conflict. Instructions were given to the cavalry to follow close upon the enemy and seize every opportunity to strike a favorable blow.

The results of the engagement in the killed, wounded, and prisoners of the enemy and our own loss will be found in the reports rendered directly to you.

The gallantry and steady courage of officers and men during this engagement are beyond all praise. For more than four hours they struggled with unflinching firmness against superior numbers until they drove them in confusion and panic to seek safety in flight.

Col. George P. Harrison, who commanded on the left, displayed skill, coolness, and gallantry. The commanding officers of the various regiments did their duty nobly. Colonel Evans, commanding Sixty-fourth Georgia, and Captain Crawford, commanding Twenty-eighth Georgia, both gallant officers, were wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Barrow, of Sixty-fourth Georgia, a brave and gallant officer, received a fatal shot while gallantly attempting to rally his men. Captain Wheaton and the officers and men of his battery are entitled to special commendation for their courage, coolness, and effi-

ciency. Captain Grattan, assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenant Colquitt, aide-de-camp; Major Ely and Lieutenant Estill, of my staff, were active and conspicuous in every part of the field. My thanks are due to Lieutenant Thomson, Second Florida Regiment, and Mr. Sterling Turner, volunteer aids, for their gallant services.

The names of those in the ranks entitled to be particularly mentioned may be furnished in a subsequent report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. COLQUITT,  
*Brigadier-General,*

Captain CALL,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 21.

*Report of Capt. John F. Wheaton, Chatham Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.*

HEADQUARTERS CHATHAM ARTILLERY,  
*Sanderson, February 22, 1864.*

COLONEL: In obedience to your order of this date I have the honor to report that my battery entered the action on the 20th instant with 80 men, rank and file, at 2.20 p. m., taking position on the right of the line. After firing 20 rounds at the enemy's batteries, was ordered to advance and take position in rear of the center of our lines, where we opened with shell, firing 50 rounds, when [we] again advanced and directed our fire against the enemy's batteries, with good effect. As the enemy retired we were again ordered to the front, and took position in the rear of the marsh, directly in rear of the center of our lines, directing our fire on all parts of the enemy's lines and batteries until he was forced from his position and fled from the field. The battery was constantly engaged from the commencement to the close of the action, and expended nearly all its ammunition, except its canister.

My men conducted themselves in a highly satisfactory manner and fought with great spirit. First Lieut. Samuel B. Palmer was very efficient, and handled his section with good judgment and skill. I was also much indebted to Sergt. Maj. James Miller, who (in absence of the commissioned officers attached to the battery) had charge of the left section and managed it in an admirable manner. All my non-commissioned officers and men were prompt and efficient and performed their respective duties in gallant style.

I had during the action 3 men slightly wounded, neither of whom left the field until the action closed. We had 1 horse killed and 3 wounded. During the night I took from the field 1 of the enemy's 12-pounder guns, with 2 caissons, 200 rounds of shot, shell, and spherical case-shot.

I have for duty to-day 111 men, rank and file. I now have 230 rounds of ammunition in my chests, exclusive of canister.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. F. WHEATON,

*Captain, Commanding Chatham Artillery.*

Col. R. B. THOMAS,  
*Chief of Artillery.*

## No. 22.

*Report of Capt. Robert H. Gamble, Leon Light Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.*

CAMP BEAUREGARD, *February 22, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that in the action of the 20th instant 77 enlisted men, with all the officers of the company, were engaged. The total number of casualties were as follows: Killed, Gun Corpl. Craven Atkinson and Private M. B. Smith, 2; wounded, Privates B. Bishop, in hand, slight; A. C. McCants, struck by fragment of shell (since returned to duty), and J. B. Lynn, struck by spent ball (since returned to duty), 3; Privates J. D. Sauls and William Bishop were injured by gun carriage.

I desire to commend specially for their coolness during the entire engagement Sergt. R. F. Phillips, Corpls. J. R. Lewis and A. W. Mason, Privates James Lee, A. D. Cone, Thomas Neary, Dennis O'Conner, A. M. May, J. J. Smith, and Brickle. Lieutenants Dyke and Gamble, chiefs of sections, and Lieut. J. N. Whitner, chief of the line caissons, rendered all the assistance in their power in handling the guns. First Sergt. F. B. Papy was also active in the discharge of his duty.

Two battery horses were killed and 7 wounded. These accidents among the horses threw several teams into confusion, during which two limbers were badly injured. The trail of the 12-pounder howitzer was crushed during the action by the recoil of the gun, but firing was continued from the piece until the broken end of the trail was so deeply imbedded in the earth as to render the gun no longer serviceable, when it was carried off the field.

Number of enlisted men now present for duty, 93.

Very respectfully,

ROBT. H. GAMBLE,

*Captain, Comdg. Battery F, Leon Light Artillery.*

Col. R. B. THOMAS,

*Chief of Artillery.*

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No. 23.

*Report of Capt. Joseph L. Dunham, Company A, Milton Light Artillery, of operations February 8-9.*

HDQRS. COMPANY A, MILTON LIGHT ARTILLERY,

*Lake City, Fla., March 18, 1864.*

COLONEL: In accordance with your orders, under date of the 14th instant, I have the honor to report the following facts in connection with the loss of five pieces of artillery, of which two 6-pounder bronze guns belonged to Company A, Milton Light Artillery, and two 3-inch rifled pieces to Company B, Milton Light Artillery, captured by the enemy at station near Pickett's, on the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Railroad, besides one 3-inch rifled gun, Company B, Milton Light Artillery, captured at Baldwin:

During the night and the next day, after the arrival of the enemy in force at Jacksonville (February 7) was known, I directed Lieutenant Bates, commanding company, to move the Government property and personal baggage of the men to the railroad depot at



Pickett's, 4 miles above camp, as I deemed it the safest point in the event of an early raid on our camp, and one at which the cars would most likely stop to take on baggage. About twilight on the evening of the 8th of February, though not on duty, in consequence of serious indisposition of a month's duration, I received a verbal order from Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick, commanding the forces at Camp Finegan, to move my section of artillery immediately to the rear; that the enemy was approaching and near Miles Price's house, some one-half mile distant. I promptly communicated the order to the lieutenant commanding the section, and as the horses were already harnessed and hitched, no time was lost in moving. On my arrival at the drill-ground near the camp, where I had followed the section, I found Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick had formed a line of battle on the west side of drill-ground with cavalry and infantry, when I was ordered to halt the artillery and form on left of line; but as three of the pieces had passed the field only one was placed in position on the left of the line. As soon as the order could be sent to the lieutenant the other three pieces were halted in the road, one-fourth mile distant, and the caissons ordered to pass to Pickett's Station. Lieutenant Bates then rode back to where the line was formed, when Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick ordered him to move on in the direction of Baldwin, but he was informed that all the baggage and Government property were at Pickett's Station; that the cars had failed to take it, when the colonel ordered him to stop at that point. On the arrival of the battery at Pickett's, I directed the lieutenant to halt the battery, unhitch, and wait until the cavalry and infantry arrived. After remaining some time, the men (except the guard) were allowed to go to sleep. About 11 to 11.30 o'clock at night I was aroused by a sergeant of Company B, Milton Light Artillery, riding rapidly through the camp and crying at the top of his voice, "Save yourselves if you can; the enemy is right upon you!" I immediately arose and ordered the men to take horses and mules and escape the best they could, but before we could get away from the camp the tramping of horses and the wheels of the artillery carriages were distinctly heard, and after riding a short distance, the sound of the bugle. My command fled, both on foot and horseback, in the direction of Baldwin, the enemy capturing only 5 men, 4 horses, 6 mules, and 3 wagons, besides the 2 pieces of artillery.

Captain Abell's loss, Company B, Milton Light Artillery, was 13 men, 19 horses, 16 mules and 3 colts, 1 battery wagon and forge, 2 wagons, and 2 pieces of artillery. I am informed that 1 piece of artillery, Company B, was captured at Baldwin for want of transportation.

I cannot conclude this report without giving expression to the opinion that if the cars had taken the baggage and Government property, which had been hauled out to Pickett's several hours before the usual train time, as the conductor promised, that the four pieces of artillery would not have been captured at that station, but there would have been ample time to have marched far beyond the enemy's pursuit by daylight the next morning.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. DUNHAM.

*Captain Company A, Milton Light Artillery.*

Col. R. B. THOMAS,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

It does not appear that Colonel McCormick sent any information of the advance of the enemy upon this company.

H. B.,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 24.

*Report of Lieut. Drury Rambo, Company A, Milton Light Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.*

SANDERSON, EAST FLA., February 23, 1864.

About 1 o'clock of the 20th instant, I received orders to move the 30-pounder Parrott gun, mounted upon a railroad flat-car, down the railroad until I should meet with orders. A locomotive being furnished I immediately ordered the gun detachment aboard, consisting of 13 privates and the gunner; proceeded until I received orders from Brigadier-General Finegan to retire the locomotive and piece. After remaining about half an hour I dispatched a courier to Brigadier-General Colquitt (to whom I had orders to report), stating that I was on hand ready and awaited his orders. From my position I deemed it very injudicious to open fire with my piece, for the thick forest of pines that intervened, and, in fact, in which our infantry was, the cutting down of limbs and trees, I believed that as much injury would result to us as good. The courier soon returned with orders that my piece could not be used, and to take it and the locomotive farther to the rear. About two hours after, when the enemy were giving way, I received orders to throw a few shells as nearly among them as possible. Three rounds were fired, with unknown effect. None of the detachment were injured. Five spokes of the right wheel of the gun carriage are injured, caused, I presume, by the sudden deflection of the trail in recoiling.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. RAMBO,  
*Lieutenant, Commanding Parrott Gun.*

Col. R. B. THOMAS,  
*Chief of Artillery.*

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No. 25.

*Report of Col. George P. Harrison, jr., Thirty-second Georgia Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, ARMY OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*In the Field, near Sanderson, Fla., February 22, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of my command in the engagement with the abolitionists near Ocean Pond on the 20th instant:

By direction of Brigadier-General Finegan this brigade, consisting of the Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, Maj. W. T. Holland

commanding; First Georgia Regulars, Capt. H. A. Cannon commanding; Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, Col. J. W. Evans commanding; First Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. C. F. Hopkins commanding; Bonaud's battalion, Maj. A. Bonaud commanding, and Guerard's light battery, Capt. John M. Guerard commanding, was drawn up in line of battle behind the intrenchments near Olustee Station about 10 a. m.

About 12 m., pursuant to instructions, I sent forward the Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, under Colonel Evans, and two companies (H and E) of Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, under Captain Mobley, to meet the enemy, then reported 3 miles in our front, with orders to engage them lightly and fall back, with a view to draw them to our works. About one hour and a half later I advanced to the front with the remainder of my command (except First Florida Battalion) and Sixth Georgia Regiment (Colquitt's brigade), and one section of Guerard's battery, for the purpose of supporting Brigadier-General Colquitt, who was now in advance with a portion of his brigade and that portion of mine sent out at 12 m. I had advanced about a mile to the front when I received a message from General Colquitt to move up rapidly. I had scarcely put my command in the double-quick when the report of artillery in my front indicated that the fight had opened. Quickening our pace we moved on until within a few hundred yards of the place where the road we were upon crossed the railroad. Here I halted for a moment, but observing General Colquitt forming his line, and seeing the enemy's position across the railroad, who was then sweeping the front of my column with a battery in position near the cross-roads, I moved to the left in double-quick, crossed the railroad, and formed line of battle upon the left of that just established by General Colquitt.

About this time the engagement became general. In a few moments I was informed by one of General Colquitt's staff that I was in proper position. Being now at long range (300 yards) I advanced in conjunction with the right of the line to within about 200 yards of the enemy, who stubbornly stood their ground. In about this position the field was hotly contested by both parties for about an hour, when the enemy gave way slowly before the close pressure of our gallant men (it was during this, while riding with my staff down the line from the left toward the center, that my ordnance officer, Lieut. R. F. Dancy, was instantly killed, and my aide-de-camp, Lieut. Horace P. Clark, and one of my couriers had their horses shot under them); but soon a new line of the enemy appeared and our advance was checked. His resistance now seemed more stubborn than before for more than twenty minutes, when the enemy sullenly gave back a little, apparently to seek a better position, but still held us at bay. Now the results of the day seemed doubtful. It was whispered down the line, particularly in the Sixth and Thirty-second Georgia Regiments, that our ammunition was failing and no ordnance train in sight. This I immediately reported to General Colquitt, who urged that we hold our ground, stating that ammunition would certainly reach us directly. This, I am proud to say, was heroically complied with by my command, many of them for fifteen or twenty minutes standing their ground without a round of ammunition. Seeing the critical position of affairs, I dismounted myself, placed one of my staff whose horse had been disabled upon mine, who, together with the remainder of my staff and couriers, was employed in conveying ammunition from a



train of cars some half mile or more distant. It was in the discharge of this duty that Lieut. George M. Blount, my acting assistant adjutant-general, was shot from his horse, but not seriously wounded. By several trips they succeeded in supplying sufficient ammunition to our line to enable the reopening of a rapid and effective fire, before which the enemy had commenced to retire slowly, still keeping up their fire upon us, when the First Florida Battalion, under command of Lieut. Col. C. F. Hopkins, and a section of Guerard's battery, under Lieut. W. Robert Gignilliat, arrived from the intrenchments. I at once ordered the former to the support of the Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment, whose ammunition was nearly all exhausted, and the latter to take position and open fire near the left center. These re-enforcements, together with some that arrived upon the right, served to embolden our men and intimidate the enemy, for their retreat now became more hurried and their fire less rapid and effective.

Under instructions from General Colquitt I now threw forward the Sixth and Thirty-second Georgia Regiments (the extreme left of our line) to flank the enemy upon their right, which movement succeeded admirably, for soon their right was exposed to a cross-fire, which told upon their ranks with fine effect. A general advance of our line now drove the enemy, who retreated, at first sullenly, but now precipitately, before our victorious arms for some miles, when night came on, and by order of General Colquitt we ceased firing and our line halted.

During the engagement the detachment of Thirty-second Georgia (Companies H and E, Captain Mobley commanding) won for itself much honor in charging and capturing three pieces of the enemy's artillery. While refraining from a mention of the individual bearing of officers belonging to commands of my brigade, for the reason that all greatly distinguished themselves, I take pleasure in reporting the intrepid commander of Sixth Georgia Regiment (General Colquitt's brigade), Colonel Lofton, for meritorious services with my command throughout the action. Corporal Buchanan, Company E, Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment, and Sergt. Thomas Battle, Company C, First Georgia Regulars (color-bearer), deserve mention for conspicuous bravery and daring.

I would ask particular attention to the gallantry of Capt. E. L. Guerard, acting brigade quartermaster. His services, together with the gallantry and promptness of Lieut. Horace P. Clark, my aide-de-camp, was of the greatest importance during the whole engagement, and particularly after the remainder of my staff had gallantly fallen and been borne from the field. My entire command behaved with a degree of coolness and bravery worthy of emulation.

The following-named officers were killed and wounded, gallantly discharging their duties:

Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, Major Holland commanding: Capt. W. D. Cornwell, Company A, wounded in shoulder; Lieut. R. J. Butler, Company B, wounded in abdomen, mortally; Lieut. W. T. Moody, Company C, wounded in knee, severely; Lieut. W. L. Jenkins, Company E, wounded in shoulder, slightly; Lieut. J. H. Pittman, Company F, wounded in leg, severely; Lieut. Morris Dawson, Company G, wounded in head, slightly.

First Georgia Regulars, Capt. A. A. F. Hill commanding: Capt. H. A. Cannon, commanding when killed; Lieut. P. H. Morel, wounded in arm, slightly.

Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, Capt. C. S. Jenkins commanding: Col. J. W. Evans, in right thigh, severely; Lieut. Col. James Barrow killed; Maj. Walter H. Weems wounded in left leg, severely; Capt. R. W. Craven, Company A, wounded in head, slightly; Lieut. J. S. Thrasher, Company A, wounded in thigh, severely; Lieut. M. L. Raines, Company C, wounded in thigh, severely; Capt. J. K. Redd, Company F, wounded in head, slightly; Lieut. T. M. Beasley, Company F, wounded in left arm, slightly; Capt. R. A. Brown, Company H, wounded in leg, slightly; Lieut. P. A. Waller, Company H, wounded in neck and head, mortally; Lieut. J. F. Burch, Company I, wounded in wrist, slightly.

First Florida Battalion Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Hopkins commanding: Lieut. Col. C. F. Hopkins wounded in arm and thigh, slightly; Lieut. S. K. Collins, Company E, wounded in face, slightly; Lieut. Theophilus Williams, Company F, wounded in breast, slightly.

Bonaud's Battalion Georgia Volunteers: Lieut. J. W. Hall, Company D, wounded, slightly; Lieut. Cader Pierce, Company G, wounded, slightly; Lieut. W. W. Holland, volunteer company, Florida, killed.

See inclosed report of casualties.\*

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,  
*Colonel Thirty-second Georgia Infantry,*  
*Commanding Second Brigade, Army of East Florida.*

Capt. W. CALL,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 26.

*Report of Capt. John M. Guerard, Georgia Artillery, of engagement at Olustee.*

HEADQUARTERS GUERARD'S LIGHT ARTILLERY,  
*Camp in the Field, February 22, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that this command carried into the engagement of 20th instant 67 rank and file and 2 commissioned [officers], and that it met with no casualties. The number present for duty is 87.

My battery went into the action by sections. The left section was first ordered forward and went under my own command. It was assigned a position by Brigadier-General Colquitt on the extreme right of the line, with orders not to fire unless the enemy advanced. It marched forward in the prolongation of the line as the latter was advanced, being constantly exposed to a severe fire, which it was not permitted to return. Lieutenant Lewis was with me in the section. The officers and men present with it behaved with commendable coolness under the trying circumstances mentioned.

The right section, under the command of Lieutenant Gignilliat, entered the field at a later period. It was posted in the center of the line and was fortunate enough to take position at the crisis of the engagement. The section of the Chatham Artillery which first

took position had exhausted its ammunition and was enabled to maintain its fire only by a supply from the chests of my section. Lieutenant Gignilliat, though for the first time exposed to fire, managed his section with skill and coolness. He reports that the conduct of his non-commissioned officers and men was deserving of praise.

I am, colonel, with great respect,

JOHN M. GUERARD,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

Col. R. B. THOMAS, *Chief of Light Artillery.*

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No. 27.

*Report of Col. Caraway Smith, commanding Cavalry Brigade, of  
engagement at Olustee.*

HDQRS. CAVALRY BRIGADE, DIST. OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*February 24, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Cavalry Brigade in the late engagement near Ocean Pond on the 20th instant :

On the morning of the 20th, it being reported that the enemy were advancing from the direction of Sanderson, I received orders from the brigadier-general commanding to advance and meet them for the purpose of ascertaining their position and number. I accordingly moved out with all the cavalry force then available, which consisted of 250 men of the Fourth Georgia Cavalry (Colonel Clinch commanding) and of 202 men of the Second Florida Cavalry (Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick commanding). I discovered the enemy about 4 miles distant from our encampment, occupying in force the second crossing of the railroad from Olustee. I immediately reported the fact to you and directed Colonel Clinch to advance a body of skirmishers from his regiment to attack the enemy's pickets, which he did promptly, and was pushing the attack earnestly when they were met by a much larger force from the enemy, which compelled them to retire to their horses. This they did in good order. The enemy then moved forward with his whole force, skirmishing on our rear, which we resisted with our rear guard, keeping him in check, while the cavalry retired in line and in perfect order. This skirmishing was kept up until we reached the first crossing of the railroad from Olustee. There I found our infantry and artillery under the command of Brigadier-General Colquitt, from whom I received orders to dispose the cavalry on the right and left wings of our army to prevent any flank movement of the enemy. I accordingly ordered Colonel Clinch to occupy the left with his regiment, and Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick, with the Second Florida Cavalry, to take position on the right.

Early in the action Colonel Clinch received a severe wound in the leg, which made it necessary for him to retire from the field, and the command of his regiment then devolved upon Captain Brown, who kept an efficient guard on the left flank while Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick protected the right. On two occasions I discovered that the enemy was attempting to cross the railroad on the right of our infantry, evidently for the purpose of turning that wing, when I directed Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick to dismount a portion of



his regiment and drive them back, which he did effectually. Thus by the vigilance of the cavalry on the right and left the enemy was prevented from deploying his large force so as to turn either flank. The Fifth Florida Cavalry Battalion (Maj. G. W. Scott commanding) was not brought upon the field until late in the evening, in consequence of the jaded condition of the men and horses from hard service for the twenty-four hours preceding. He, however, joined with Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick on the right about the middle of the contest and rendered him prompt assistance.

The fight terminating at night, and our infantry lines not being perceptible to me through the woods, and the face of the country being cut up by swamps, making it very favorable for ambushing under the cover of night, I deemed it unadvisable to press forward with the whole cavalry force until further information could be had of the position of affairs. In addition to this, after the order to move forward was being executed another order was received to the effect that we were getting under the fire of our men, and also that I should beware of an ambush. I attached the more importance to this order because it had already been discovered that a large body of the enemy's cavalry were resting on the opposite side of a swamp from us. The cavalry, however, as soon as possible followed up the enemy and gathered a number of prisoners, amounting to about 150. In addition to this several prisoners were taken by Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick and Major Scott while protecting the right flank.

I have to report that Colonel Clinch and 3 men of the Fourth Georgia Cavalry were wounded. One of the wounded men is missing, and supposed now to be dead.

It is due to the companies of Captains Stephens and Maxwell, of the Second Florida Cavalry, to state that the conduct of the men and officers, while acting as the rear guard of the cavalry as we were falling back before the enemy, was highly satisfactory. They behaved with the coolness and deliberation of veterans.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,  
CARAWAY SMITH,

*Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Brigade.*

Capt. W. CALL, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

#### ADDENDA.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Camp Milton, Fla., March 7, 1864.*

Maj. JOHN F. LAY, *Inspector of Cavalry, &c.:*

MAJOR: I am instructed by the general commanding to inform you that the report of Col. Caraway Smith of the operations of the Cavalry Brigade during the engagement at Ocean Pond and pursuit the same evening is not satisfactory, and to direct you to make inquiries in regard to the same, and report if the orders of superior officers were carried out by Colonel Smith, and if his command took such share in the attack on the enemy as could reasonably be expected under those orders. I am instructed to communicate to you, for your attention, the following extracts from official reports:

First. From Brigadier-General Finegan's, in regard to the opening of the engagement:

I ordered Brigadier-General Colquitt to advance with three of his regiments and assume command of the entire force then ordered to the front.

\* \* \* \* \*

During the continuance of the battle, also after the enemy had given way, I sent repeated orders to Colonel Smith, commanding cavalry, to press the enemy on his flanks and to continue in the pursuit; but through some misapprehension these orders failed to be executed by him, and only two small companies on the left, and these but for a short distance, followed the enemy.

Second. From Brigadier-General Colquitt's report, which, having given an account of the fight, states:

We continued the pursuit for several miles, when night put an end to the conflict. Instructions were given to the cavalry to follow close upon the enemy and seize every opportunity to strike a favorable blow.

Third. Col. Caraway Smith's report, which, after summing up the fight (and which does not show that the cavalry made any positive attack after the fight began), states:

Thus by the vigilance of the cavalry on the right and left the enemy was prevented from deploying his large force so as to turn either flank. The Fifth Florida Cavalry Battalion was not brought upon the field until late in the evening, in consequence of the jaded condition of the men and horses.

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The fighting terminating at night, and our infantry lines not being perceptible to me through the woods, and the face of the country being cut up by swamps, making it very favorable for ambushing under cover of night, I deemed it inadvisable to press forward with the whole cavalry until further information could be had of the position of affairs. In addition to this, after the order to move forward was being executed another order was received to the effect that we were getting under the fire of our men, and also that I should beware of an ambush. I attached the more importance to this order because it had already been discovered that a large body of the enemy's cavalry were resting on the opposite side of a swamp from us.

The commanding general also directs that you will inquire who gave Colonel Smith the order that he was getting under the fire of our own men and to beware of an ambush; also, how it was that our infantry lines were not perceptible to Colonel Smith at the termination of the fight, although a large body of the enemy's cavalry were discovered resting on the opposite side of a swamp.

It is a matter of some surprise to the commanding general, which you will endeavor to explain, that the 202 men of the Second Florida Cavalry should have escaped without a casualty, none being mentioned in the report; also, that out of the whole cavalry only 1 officer and 3 privates were wounded.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,

*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

P. S.—The commanding general desires that you will also investigate the following extract from General Finegan's report:

And in consequence of a report from our advance cavalry picket that the enemy had halted for the night and taken a position (which was subsequently ascertained to be incorrect), I withdrew the order.

Very respectfully, &c.,

HENRY BRYAN,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., *March 20, 1864.*

Maj. JOHN F. LAY,

*Assistant Inspector-General:*

MAJOR: Understanding from the official reports of the late battle of Ocean Pond that impressions had been formed prejudicial to my

conduct as an officer, I respectfully ask for a court of inquiry for an investigation of the same. I would have made this request at an earlier date if I had been informed of the facts.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
CARAWAY SMITH,  
*Colonel Second Florida Cavalry.*

[Indorsement.]

CAMP MILTON, FLA., *March 28, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, with the recommendation that a court of inquiry be awarded, and that it convene at or near these headquarters at the earliest practicable day.

JNO. F. LAY,  
*Major and Assistant Inspector-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT NO. 1, FLORIDA,  
*Tallahassee, March 21, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 18th instant, calling my attention to my indorsement upon an application of Col. Caraway Smith, Second Florida Cavalry, to be restored to the command of his regiment. I make the following statement, which I hope may prove satisfactory to the general commanding:

My connection with the army now operating in East Florida may be said to have only commenced after my arrival at Baldwin on the 26th ultimo, and I only got to the actual front the next day. This was several days after the engagement of Olustee. It was during and immediately subsequent to this battle that Colonel Smith is said to have been delinquent in the discharge of his duties. When I assumed command of the forces to which he was attached, and during the short time I was in command, no complaint was lodged against Colonel Smith by the then commander of the forces in the field; but, on the contrary, he was still retained in command of all the cavalry, except a detachment under Maj. G. W. Scott. I therefore ignored all camp rumors as far as my official action was concerned. Upon assuming command I did not find the cavalry in a satisfactory condition. Colonel Smith could not give prompt and reliable information as to the points occupied by his detachments, nor of the actual number of serviceable men of his command. Colonel Smith professes to be able to account for this by statements that detachments were being constantly sent out without orders passing through him. In any event I was much relieved, upon the arrival [of] Colonel Anderson, by Colonel Smith's application to be relieved from duty with the forces in East Florida, in consequence of his having been superseded by that officer, his junior. From all I could see and learn during the few days I was in command I should have hesitated to order Colonel Smith to the rear until I was fully satisfied it was my duty to bring him before a military tribunal of some sort. It was, and is still, my opinion that Colonel Smith should be brought before some court to investigate his alleged neglect of duty or incompetency, or be returned to his regiment. My indorsement upon his application was made in entire ignorance that any investigation was pending in his case. Had I known that such was the fact I should have forwarded the paper without remark.



I may add, in conclusion, that my opinion, expressed verbally to the general commanding, is still unchanged. In indorsing Colonel Smith's application, not knowing that an investigation was to be had, I acted as I should wish my commanding officer to act by me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. GARDNER,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. J. F. LAY,

*Assistant Inspector-General, Tallahassee, Fla.*

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**FEBRUARY 9, 1864.—Skirmish near Point Washington, Fla.**

*Report of Lieut. Col. David B. Peck, Seventh Vermont Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH VERMONT VOLUNTEERS,  
*Camp Roberts, Barrancas, Fla., February 17, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report respecting the capture of Lieut. George Ross, Company B, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, with a portion of his company, based upon the statements of First Sergt. E. B. Hendry, Company B:

On the 8th instant, an expedition, consisting of Captain Galloway, with 14 men, and Lieutenant Ross, Company B, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, with 17 men of his company, left the camp at Point Washington for the purpose of capturing Floyd's company (rebel infantry) stationed at Cedar Bluff, about 40 miles up the Choctaw-hatchee River, on the east bank. A rebel picket of 5 men was surrounded and captured within 6 miles of the rebel camp. Our troops surrounded Floyd's camp at 10 p. m., and demanded the surrender. Two lieutenants and 50 men were in camp, and all surrendered without resistance. A sentinel was placed over the rebel officers but was taken off by Captain Galloway, and both of them made their escape during the night.

Our troops left the camp at 4 a. m., February 9, with the prisoners, arms, ammunition, and four mule teams. When about 15 miles from Floyd's camp on their return, and while stopping for dinner at noon, a force of about 100 rebel cavalry charged upon them, and after a little firing on both sides succeeded in capturing Captain Galloway and 5 refugees, and Lieutenant Ross with 11 of his men. First Sergeant Hendry, Corporal Cooley, and Privates Daniels, Porter, and Pitts, of Company B, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, succeeded in making their escape and returned to Point Washington in company with 9 refugees, arriving at 11 o'clock the next day. The remainder of the company, in charge of First Sergeant Hendry, left Point Washington February 11, stopped two days at East Pass, and arrived at Barrancas, Fla., February 16.

The following is a list\* of the captured men belonging to the Seventh Vermont Regiment.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. PECK,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.*

Lieut. E. T. SPRAGUE,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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\* Nominal list of prisoners omitted.

**FEBRUARY 9-10, 1864.**—Expedition from Fernandina up Nassau River, Fla.

*Report of Capt. De Witt C. Lewis, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry.*

FERNANDINA, FLA., February 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of an expedition up Nassau River, of which a detachment of the Ninety-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers under my command formed a part:

We embarked and sailed from this place at 10.30 a. m. for Nassau, by the way of Amelia River, February 9, accompanied by detachments of sailors from U. S. brig of war Perry and gun-boat Para, commanded by Lieutenant Hanford, of the U. S. Navy. At Station bridge, on the railroad, we discovered a party of the enemy, consisting of 3 mounted men, who were driven out of sight by the firing of a shell at them. At 2.30 p. m., we entered Nassau River, and proceeded up that stream to Nassau Mills, some 25 or 30 miles, meeting on our way but two posts of the enemy's pickets, who retired on our approaching them. One was stationed at Cooper's Bluff and the other at the Jacksonville road. We arrived at the mills about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, shelling the woods on our way up on both sides of the river, and were met at the mills by two ladies with a flag of truce, who reported themselves as being the only persons on the island at the time, one of them being the wife of a gentleman by the name of Holmes, the owner of a large steam saw-mill that was in the course of erection at the commencement of the war. We sent a boat and took them on board as a precaution against treachery, and again moved up the river some 4 miles farther, taking the distance by the channel of the river, which is very crooked, and came to anchor about 8 o'clock in the evening, the night being very dark. We immediately threw out pickets some 300 yards in advance of the vessel. As soon as the tide commenced running out a large amount of timber floated down, supposed to have been cut loose above by the enemy for the purpose of injuring the steamer, as a number of signal lights were seen on each side of the river above the vessel.

At daylight on the morning of the 10th, the anchor was hoisted and we dropped down below the new mill about half a mile and landed the ladies. At 10.30 the detachment of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanded by Captain Savage, appeared in sight, some 2 miles from us across the marsh; sent a boat to communicate with them and bring them on board. In the meanwhile had the boat run close inshore and landed to examine the condition of saw-mill; found the old one in bad order, but the new one nearly ready for running, with an engine of some 50-horse power, with five tubular boilers, set furnaces, and everything complete except steam connections between engine and boilers. The gearing of the mill appears to be complete with exception of belting, a part of which is there. There are two sets of frames for gang and two for circular saws. The ways for drawing logs on the mill are laid, and the gearing for that purpose appears to be ready for use. I think timber can be sawed 60 feet in length, and there is a large quantity of it in the water before and above the mill. All the sawed lumber has been destroyed by the enemy. The old mill is some 300 yards above the new one. We found in the channel of the river about 2 fathoms

of water. Vessels drawing 6 feet can get up as high as the mills at low water. After taking Captain Savage and party on board we started on our return, and arrived at this place in the evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

DE WITT CLINTON LEWIS,

*Captain, Ninety-seventh Pa. Vols., Comdg. Detachment.*

Col. HENRY R. GUSS,

*Commanding Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers.*

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**FEBRUARY 10, 1864.—Capture of Camp Cooper, Fla.**

*Report of Maj. Galusha Pennypacker, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry.*

FERNANDINA, FLA., February 11, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to your orders and written instructions furnished me, I made an incursion upon Camp Cooper, on the mainland, on the night of the 9th of February instant.

My command consisted of 290 men, composed of detachments from Companies A, B, D, E, G, H, I, and K of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers.

On the afternoon of the 9th, I marched the force as far as the drawbridge, where we remained secreted until dark. We then crossed the river in a scow provided for the purpose. The whole force was safely landed on the mainland about 8.30 o'clock. We advanced along the railroad until within a short distance of the trestle-work, about 4 miles from the drawbridge, where we struck off to the left, through a large pine woods. Traversing a road through these woods for several miles, we again came to the railroad and crossed it about 1 mile this side of Lofton bridge. We then proceeded along what is called Hartz road until we had passed through Lofton Swamp, the headwaters of Lofton Creek, where I ordered a halt, and sent out a reconnoitering party in addition to my advance guard, to examine the country. This was about 3 a. m. The scouts soon returned and reported that Camp Cooper lay a little to the right of this road, about 1 mile in advance. I moved the battalion silently and cautiously up, and formed it on the north and west of the camp. At the first dawn I ordered a charge, at which the men swept impetuously through the camp, but found it almost entirely deserted. We captured 2 prisoners and 3 horses.

From the prisoners I learned that the enemy had marched on the 8th instant to Camp Finegan, in the vicinity of Jacksonville, with three companies of cavalry, their entire force. The camp had been commanded by Major Harrison, and was large and well located. The prisoners had been left behind to have an oversight over the camp. They report that they had no thought of an attack from this quarter. The public property consisted of a little inferior subsistence stores and a small quantity of clothing, all of which I destroyed. The quarters of the officers and men, as well as the stables, were principally rude shanties, but quite comfortable. I caused them all to be burned.

After halting an hour I commenced the return march by the route which I came, reaching the drawbridge at 2 p. m. On the return I dispatched two companies under the command of Capt. J. M. C.



Savage, to communicate with the steamer *Island City*, near Nassau Mills, which was accomplished successfully. I also sent a small party to Clark's picket station, but nothing was found there except a few head of cattle in an inclosure.

I am informed by my guides that the distance from the drawbridge to Camp Cooper by the route traveled is about 17 miles. The road was a succession of swamp and forest. The railroad is in an undisturbed condition, much of the timber, however, slowly rotting away. The soldiers marched well, and without straggling.

My thanks are due to all my officers and men for the alacrity and faithfulness with which they performed their duty. One man (a substitute) of Company I is reported missing to-day. He is probably a deserter. I would make especial mention of Adj. Henry W. Carruthers for the valuable assistance he rendered me throughout. I am greatly indebted to my guides for the manner in which they discharged their duty in a very dark night. They all (especially Mr. Grissom) appeared perfectly familiar with the country, and their assistance was indispensable. Prince and Charles were the colored guides. Had the expedition been undertaken at an earlier day, I conceive that under the same circumstances it would have been a perfect success.

Submitting the foregoing for your information, I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. PENNYPACKER,

*Major Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg.*

Col. HENRY R. GUSS,

*Comdg. U. S. Forces, Fernandina, Fla.*

**FEBRUARY 15-23, 1864.—Expedition from Fernandina to Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, Fla.**

*Report of Maj. Galusha Pennypacker, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry.\**

FERNANDINA, FLA., *February 23, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part borne by my command, consisting of a detachment of the Ninety-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, in an expedition to Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, Fla., for the purpose of procuring lumber for military use:

In accordance with oral instructions received from yourself, and written instructions from Maj. T. B. Brooks, aide-de-camp on the staff of General Gillmore, I left this post with my command, consisting of 300 men, on the steamer *Island City*, at 2 o'clock on the morning of the 15th instant. We disembarked at Clark's, on the Amelia River, opposite this place, about half an hour before daylight, and immediately took up our line of march for Woodstock Mills, on the Saint Mary's River, distant by the route we traveled some 33 miles from the point of disembarkation. The march was made in good order, with flankers and an advanced guard well out, and without straggling. Persons living along the road who might have given information of our approach were made to march with the column until it arrived at its destination, which was

\*For reports of Acting Masters S. N. Freeman and E. G. Furber, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

reached at sunset. The distance traveled being very considerable, and the roads unusually difficult, the men became somewhat jaded and footsore, but the rapidity of the march was not thereby materially lessened. When within 2 miles of the mills, in accordance with my instructions, I sent forward 20 men under Lieutenant Casgriff, to surprise and capture the picket-post supposed to be at that place and prevent the lumber from being fired. No post was there, however, and the lumber was found undisturbed. I learned that orders had been given to the enemy's picket, formerly stationed there, to burn this property on the approach of any Federal force. My instructions anticipated this design and caused me, therefore, to make a rapid march. Upon my arrival I threw out pickets, established guards where I thought necessary for the protection of private property, and bivouacked my command.

On the following morning we commenced building rafts of the lumber found at Woodstock, said to belong to the estate of Mr. Edwin Alberti, deceased. On the afternoon of the same day (February 16) Major Brooks arrived at the post with several transports and the U. S. naval schooner Para. He having been intrusted with the command of the expedition, I accordingly reported to him for duty, and he assumed command of the entire force. He relinquished this command to me on the 20th instant and returned to Fernandina. A large amount of lumber (some of it very valuable) was sent daily to this place from both Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills. The property taken at the latter place is said to have belonged to one Mr. Germond, residing near by. I am unable to give the exact quantity obtained. Major Brooks will be able to furnish the requisite information on this point.

On the 22d instant (yesterday), I was ordered to return with the whole force with all possible dispatch to Fernandina. The troops were immediately embarked on the steamers Island City and Harriet A. Weed, the latter vessel taking in tow the Para. The rafts (four in number) that had been constructed at the mills and had not been towed down were cast adrift, in order that they might float down with the tide to Fernandina. We reached this post to-day without having sustained any injury during our absence except the wounding, slightly, of 2 men belonging to Company B, Captain Savage, yesterday, while that company was making a reconnaissance on the Georgia side of the Saint Mary's River.

I wish to return my thanks to First Lieut. James T. Skiles, adjutant, and Dr. William C. Morrison, assistant surgeon, of the battalion; to Acting Master E. G. Furber, commanding U. S. naval schooner Para (for the valuable assistance rendered me by him), and to the masters of the transports Island City and Harriet A. Weed.

Two deserters, 4 refugees, and about 25 negroes came inside our lines at the mills. I forwarded them to your post, reporting them to the provost-marshal.

It affords me much gratification to be enabled to speak in a most favorable manner of the conduct of both officers and men under my command during our absence.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
G. PENNYPACKER,

*Major Ninety-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Vols.*

Col. HENRY R. GUSS,

*Commanding U. S. Forces, Fernandina, Fla.*

**FEBRUARY 22, 1864.—Skirmish at Whitemarsh Island, Ga.***Report of Brig. Gen. Raleigh E. Colston, C. S. Army.***HEADQUARTERS COLSTON'S BRIGADE,**  
*February 28, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the affair which took place on Whitemarsh Island on Monday, the 22d instant:

About 10.30 a. m., I received a dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Pritchard, commanding Fort Bartow and Oatland and Whitemarsh Islands, informing me that the enemy had landed in force upon Whitemarsh Island and were engaging our artillery. This dispatch must have [been] very much delayed by the difficulty of crossing the river, for I found that the enemy's landing had taken place about two hours before. I immediately ordered the First Georgia Regiment of Volunteers to march forthwith from Savannah to Fort Bartow, and repaired at once to the scene of action with my staff. I also ordered a detachment of 40 cavalry from Major Anderson's command, on Isle of Hope, to repair to Fort Bartow. Upon my arrival I received information through prisoners captured that the enemy had advanced in four transports, besides a party in barges or surf-boats. Their force was stated at four full regiments and six pieces of artillery. The entire force at my disposal on the island was about 250 men and two pieces of artillery of Maxwell's battery.

The configuration of the island made it extremely hazardous for so small a force to advance beyond the tongue of land which forms the end of the island next to Oatland, and the means of transporting re-enforcements to the island or of retreating in case of necessity were very incomplete and slow, consisting only of a ferry-boat. The very small force which I had, consisting only of 125 men in line of battle (the rest being on picket or thrown out as skirmishers), were drawn up across the tongue of land, this being the only position where they could be safe against a flank attack, for just beyond the island suddenly widens to a breadth of 2 miles.

In the mean time the enemy were shelling the island from their gun-boats near the Gibson house, and also from below Turner's Rocks. A portion of my infantry had been sent to reconnoiter the enemy's position and observe their movements. While awaiting their report I consulted about the position with the brigadier-general commanding the district, and received from him the order, in case the enemy should advance in overwhelming force, to evacuate the islands in time to avoid losing men or guns. Fort Bartow would then be ready to open fire and make Oatland and a portion of Whitemarsh untenable for the enemy.

Very soon after receiving this order a prisoner captured by one of our reconnoitering parties gave the information that the enemy were re-embarking in great haste at the Gibson house. I immediately ordered the First Georgia Regiment (five small companies, numbering altogether about 175 men) and Maxwell's section of artillery to advance in pursuit, but before they could have reached the Gibson house the enemy were out of sight. Up to the moment of their leaving they continued to shell the island vigorously.

I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Pritchard to forward to my headquarters a full report of the affair, accompanied by the reports of his subordinates. From these reports and the information derived



from the prisoners and other sources I am enabled to submit the following statement :

About 8 o'clock on Monday morning the enemy advanced toward Whitemarsh Island in two parties. One consisted of eleven surf-boats, each carrying 20 men, and passed over the flats at high tide. The morning being hazy, and the high grass of the marsh covering them, they were enabled to effect a landing without being seen about 100 yards below the picket at Fleetwood's, and immediately advanced upon that picket, which fired upon them. The picket, consisting only of 3 men and 1 non-commissioned officer, immediately retreated upon the Oatland bridge, closely pursued by the enemy, who also drove in the sentinels at the bridge. Some 20 of the enemy dashed across the bridge toward the battery. Lieutenant Richardson, commanding section of artillery, was informed by the retreating picket of the advance of the enemy and immediately opened fire of canister upon them, driving them back very rapidly to the cover of the woods.

One lieutenant and 2 privates, of the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers surrendered themselves rather than recross the bridge under fire of our artillery. The rest of this party kept up a fire of skirmishers upon the artillery, by which we lost 1 man and 1 horse killed. Lieutenant Richardson finally drove them off by a fire of shell. They then advanced toward the picket at Gibson's house, composed of a detachment of the Fifty-seventh Regiment Georgia Volunteers, under the command of Captain Tucker.

About the same time that the party landed below the Fleetwood picket the lookout at the Gibson house reported three steamers crowded with men at the point of Wilmington Island and coming up. Captain Tucker immediately sent a courier to Captain Turner, at Turner's Rocks, to inform him of the fact, and disposed his men to resist the enemy's approach, who were then landing. Just then the force of the enemy which had been driven back from the bridge advanced upon the rear of Captain Tucker's position and were for some time believed to be a re-enforcement, but becoming convinced of the contrary, Captain Tucker ordered his men to fire upon them. About half of them did so. The enemy replied, and Captain Tucker's men broke in wild confusion. Notwithstanding the most earnest efforts of Captain Tucker and his officers, it was impossible to rally them until they reached the main road and effected a junction with the picket from Turner's Rocks, under Lieutenant Readick, which had been ordered by Captain Turner to concentrate with the other pickets at the cross-roads.

At the first information received by him, Colonel Pritchard had ordered that portion of the Fifty-seventh Regiment at their camp near Fort Bartow to cross over, and had formed them in line of battle. He now ordered Captain Turner to take his company and advance to the Gibson house and reconnoiter the enemy. Captain Turner found them there in force and fired upon them. The main force at the landing returned Captain Turner's fire briskly. At the same time the boats commenced shelling vigorously. Before re-enforcements could be brought up the enemy re-embarked and disappeared, leaving behind them a number of haversacks, canteens, blankets, and clothing, some of them saturated with blood, and three excellent surf-boats with oars.

The enemy were piloted by 2 negroes whom the prisoners described so accurately that their identity is well established. These

negroes know every creek and marsh, and one of them guided the boat party over the marsh so as to avoid our pickets entirely, while the other piloted the steamers. Their purpose was to seize the bridge leading to Oatland, and thus to cut off all the forces and negroes on the island. In this they signally failed. Although several hundred negroes were working on the fortifications on the island, not a single one was taken.

There is no doubt that the enemy lost several men killed or wounded, but they carried them off with them. We took 4 prisoners, 1 of them a lieutenant.

Our loss was 1 killed in Richardson's section of artillery, 1 slightly wounded, and 11 captured. Seven of the latter belong to an Irish company, from which many desertions have lately taken place, and from the position of this company it is more than probable that these men went to the enemy voluntarily.

It will appear from this report that the pickets were not surprised by the enemy; that at Fleetwood's fired upon the enemy and retreated, being entirely too weak to do otherwise. The detachment of the Fifty-seventh at the Gibson house behaved very badly. Their officers deserve credit for their personal conduct, and are deeply mortified at the behavior of their men. Lieutenant-Colonel Pritchard, who has command of the island, acted with promptness and judgment, but his force was too weak to allow him to do more than observe the movements of the enemy. Captain Turner also deserves mention for the judicious measures which he took to save any portion of our force toward Turner's Rocks from being cut off and for his efficiency in reconnoitering the enemy. Lieutenant Richardson, commanding section of Maxwell's battery, deserves great credit for the rapidity with which he brought his artillery into action and drove back the enemy from the bridge.

I have made a more detailed report of this affair than its importance seems to justify, in order that the position of affairs on Whitemarsh might be fully understood.

Since the departure of two of my regiments for Florida I have been utterly unable to guard that island. Until lately only about 60 men picketed it, when several hundred negroes were sent there, and the enemy was made aware of it by deserters. I had to strip the city lines of the necessary guards and impose such severe duties upon the rest of the troops that the surgeons are protesting against it, and with all my efforts I could not place on Whitemarsh more than 200 men, who have had to do the picket duty day after day without being relieved. The Holcombe Legion is now placed as a garrison for Oatland and Whitemarsh, but it was only upon the urgent representation of the general commanding the district that it was not sent to Florida yesterday. Whitemarsh Island is too large and too accessible, not only by numerous creeks, but over the marshes at high tide, to be guarded by a few men, and unless a considerable force is kept there what pickets we are able to establish must always be liable to be cut off.

In the late affair it was only the artillery which I requested the brigadier-general to give me for the protection of Oatland bridge which saved us from losing this bridge, for we had not enough infantry to protect it and guard the other points also. Unless a sufficient force is kept there the possession of the island and the construction of the bridge at Causten's Bluff becomes a source of weakness and danger instead of strength. I would also call attention to

the fact that to secure these points as far as possible the whole of my right flank is weakened, and I have not a man available for the support of the garrisons at Rose Dew, Beaulieu, and Isle of Hope in case of attack. The indubitable truth is that with so few men scattered over so much ground we can hardly resist a *coup de main* anywhere, for there are no reserves that we can call upon. The fact is that on the day of the attack, by collecting all the forces not absolutely necessary to guard other points, I could not have assembled more than 500 men for the defense of Whitemarsh, and that only after considerable delay, owing to distances and want of transportation across the river.

R. E. COLSTON,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Capt. G. A. MERCER, *A. A. G.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Savannah, February 29, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded.

Having been present, I confirm the report of General Colston, and beg to call particular attention to the exposed and defenseless condition of Whitemarsh Island.

H. W. MERCER,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., March 26, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded to the War Department, for its information.

Brigadier-General Colston mentions in his report that a portion of the Fifty-seventh Georgia Regiment behaved badly. He complains of the total inadequacy of the force at his command to resist these raids, and says that if he had brought every available man to the defense of Whitemarsh Island he could not have mustered more than 500 men. He compliments Colonel Pritchard, Captain Turner, and Lieutenant Richardson, commanding artillery section.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

### MARCH 1, 1864.—Skirmishes at Cedar and McGirt's Creeks, Fla.

#### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, commanding Light Brigade.

No. 2.—Maj. Atherton H. Stevens, jr., Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.

No. 3.—Lieut. Michael Leahy, Battery B, First U. S. Artillery.

#### No. 1.

*Report of Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, commanding Light Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT BRIGADE, *March 26, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to make the following report of the action of March 1, 1864:

At 9 a. m. on that day I sent a reconnoitering party, consisting of the battalion Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, one squadron Fortieth



Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, and one piece of Elder's Horse Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, all under the command of Major Stevens, to ascertain the enemy's position at Ten-Mile Station. At 10 o'clock the advanced post of the enemy was met at 1 mile this side of Pickett's. They consisted of about 100 cavalry and two pieces of artillery, and were driven in. The enemy's outpost was immediately re-enforced by a regiment of cavalry and one piece of artillery. Major Stevens then began to retire, the enemy following, our men fighting step by step. As soon as Major Stevens arrived at Cedar Creek I sent re-enforcements to him, consisting of one piece of artillery and all but one squadron of the Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry. That and Elder's section of artillery I ordered to retire along the line of railroad and form line of battle at Three-Mile Run. I immediately rode over to Cedar Creek and took command, ordering Major Stevens to take command at Three-Mile Run and await my arrival.

The enemy charged upon my command, but were bogged, losing a number of men and horses. They then dismounted and fought on foot. Their firing was very hot, and my men resisted every inch of ground with great bravery. The Fortieth were dismounted, the battalion of cavalry being mounted, forming a reserve.

While this was going on the enemy effected a crossing on my right with three regiments of infantry and 300 cavalry, thus attempting to turn my flank. The only way to prevent this was to retire, which I accordingly did, halting and encamping at Three-Mile Run. The enemy followed about 1 mile. The action commenced at about 10 a. m. and lasted till 3 p. m. About 5 miles of ground was fought over, almost yard by yard.

Too much credit cannot be given to my brigade for the cool, brave, and determined manner in which they fought a very superior foe. The enemy numbered about 5,000 infantry and cavalry and three pieces of artillery. My own force was 500 cavalry and two pieces of artillery.

My loss was 1 killed, 4 wounded, and 5 taken prisoners. The enemy acknowledge a loss of 40 or 50 killed and wounded. They give us great credit, and particularly the 5 men taken prisoners, who fought gallantly till completely surrounded.

There were some instances of individual bravery, but where all did so nobly it would be unnecessary to draw any comparisons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GUY V. HENRY,

*Col. 40th Mass. Mounted Infy., Comdg. Light Brigade.*

Lieut. R. M. HALL,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

#### ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
No. 16. } Jacksonville, Fla., March 26, 1864.

I. The brigadier-general commanding announces that on March 1 the enemy advanced in largely superior force, with cavalry, artillery, and infantry, upon our mounted force on outpost duty. This force of course withdrew, pursuant to explicit instructions from these headquarters, but not without contesting the advance of the enemy, step by step, in the most gallant manner. Our casualties were 1 killed, 4 wounded, and 5 taken prisoners, while the enemy lost 7

killed (including a captain) and more than 30 wounded. And the brigadier-general commanding thanks Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry; Maj. A. H. Stevens, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, and the officers and men under them, for their brilliant conduct on that day. Particular mention is made of Lieut. M. Leahy, First U. S. Artillery, in command of a section of Capt. S. S. Elder's Horse Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, for efficient service of his guns on that occasion, and Sergt. J. D. Sanford and Privates G. G. Andrews, John S. Randall, Edmund Crosby, Jonathan Clifford, and George Washburne, of Company A, Fortieth Regiment Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, for their determined and brave resistance to a large force, which had surrounded them all, excepting Private Andrews, having been unfortunately captured.

II. The redoubt at Palatka will be known as redoubt Vandever, in honor of Capt. Garrett Vandever, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, the record of whose distinguished gallantry at Olustee will long survive the work that commemorates his name.

III. The work at Yellow Bluff is named after First Lieut. D. H. Jones, Fifty-fifth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, a promising young officer, who was accidentally killed on the 23d instant, near that place, while in the discharge of his duty.

IV. Second Lieut. R. H. Waters, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, is announced as assistant commissary of musters for this district, on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour :

R. M. HALL,

*First Lieut., First U. S. Arty., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.*

No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Atherton H. Stevens, jr., Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT BRIGADE,  
*East Florida, March 22, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT : I have the honor to transmit herewith my report of the skirmish which took place on the 1st instant, in the vicinity of Cedar Creek :

In accordance with orders received from Col. Guy V. Henry, commanding Light Brigade, then camped at so-called Camp Moody, I, with Companies B and C and a platoon of Company D, battalion Massachusetts Cavalry, and one company of the Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry and one gun from Captain Elder's battery, First U. S. Artillery (under Lieutenant Leahy), proceeded to the front on a reconnaissance. After passing our outer vedettes I sent forward one-half of Company B, battalion Massachusetts Cavalry, as skirmishers, who drove in the enemy's pickets and proceeded nearly 3 miles beyond Cedar Creek, when we discovered the enemy in considerable force in our front. I then ordered the remainder of Company B to the support of my skirmishers, and observing a force

of cavalry in my front I ordered Lieutenant Leahy to fire a shell at them, which was done with good effect, scattering their advance. I then ordered another shot fired and my skirmishers to retire slowly, which was done, followed closely by the enemy. At one time their cavalry (apparently a full battalion) formed for a charge. I immediately got the remainder of the cavalry battalion (numbering not more than 50 men) ready to meet the charge. The enemy at the time were on a brisk trot, but they immediately slackened their pace and came to a halt. We continued to retire slowly till we recrossed Cedar Creek, where we got into position to hold it, as per previous orders. The advance of the enemy came down to the crossing, and on perceiving the head of their advance at the crossing another shot from Leahy's gun scattered them wildly. Here we remained fighting for half an hour, the enemy having three pieces of artillery opposed to us, when orders were received to fall back to camp. We proceeded slowly in the direction of the camp, and when  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the creek met re-enforcements consisting of Companies I and K of the Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, with another gun from Elder's battery, with orders to go back and hold the creek. We again marched toward the creek, the enemy's artillery keeping up a continuous fire, without damage. Dismounting the squadron of the Fortieth Massachusetts and Company B of the cavalry battalion, we commenced to drive the enemy, who by this time had gained this side of the creek to the number of over 200 infantry. Here also a sharp skirmish fight ensued. Colonel Henry, commanding brigade, now (12 m.) came to the front and took command.

Our casualties were thus far, 1 killed, Private John C. Lamont, Company B, cavalry battalion, and 1 wounded, William H. Poor, Company K, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, since died, and 1 horse killed.

I have the honor to be, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ATHERTON H. STEVENS, JR.,

*Major, Comdg. Battalion Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.*

Lieut. R. M. HALL,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. '3.

*Lieut. Michael Leahy, Battery B, First U. S. Artillery.*

CAMP OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE,  
*Three-Mile Run, Fla., March 21, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by a piece of my section in the skirmish of the 1st instant, under the command of Major Stevens, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.

Our advance came upon the enemy close to McGirt's Creek, driving their pickets onto their main force, which had taken a strong position on the skirt of a swamp. I brought my piece into battery and opened with shell and case-shot, the enemy slowly driving our force. I then fired two rounds of canister at the head of their



column at less than 500 yards' distance, retreated slowly, firing in retreat, falling back to Three-Mile Creek, where I rejoined the battery. Total number of rounds fired, 30.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. LEAHY,

*Second Lieutenant, First Artillery.*

Capt. S. S. ELDER.

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**MARCH 4-MAY 14, 1864.—Operations in Florida.**

*Report of Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson, C. S. Army, commanding  
District of Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*In the Field, near Jacksonville, Fla., May 14, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: In compliance with the request of the major-general commanding, Samuel Jones, communicated to me in your letter of the 10th instant, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the troops of this district, and of those, so far as known, of the enemy, during the last two months:

On the 4th March last, in obedience to an order from the War Department, I assumed command of the District of Florida. The district was divided into sub-districts, the geographical limits of which are as follows, viz: Sub-District No. 1 embraces all that portion of Florida between the Choctawhatchee River and Choctawhatchee Bay, in West Florida, and the Suwannee River; Sub-District No. 2 embraces all of Florida east of the Suwannee River. Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner commands Sub-District No. 1 and Brigadier-General Finegan commands Sub-District No. 2.

At the time I assumed command the enemy occupied Jacksonville in force, estimated upon the best information that could be obtained at about 12,000, having strong fortifications on the land side of the place, with the additional defense of two gun-boats in the Saint John's River. Our forces, numbering at that time about 8,000 of all arms, had taken position, infantry and artillery, on the west side of McGirt's Creek, about 12 miles from Jacksonville, at the point where the railroad and wagon roads from that place to Lake City cross the creek. General Beauregard had preceded me a few days to this point, and was present, supervising and directing our movements. Breast-works and stockades were immediately constructed at this position, and similar fortifications of a more permanent character were thrown up at Baldwin, 8 miles in rear of McGirt's Creek, and at the intersection of the railroads running from Fernandina to Cedar Keys and from Jacksonville to Lake City. For a time there were many indications which gave promise of an advance by the enemy, and every preparation was made to meet him at McGirt's Creek in the first place, or in the event he should turn that position, or in any other way compel us to abandon it, then at Baldwin, where it was believed a successful defense might be made against three times our number.

During this time, too, there was considerable alarm felt by many of the citizens of Middle Florida on account of recent depredations committed or threatened by bands of deserters, disloyal persons, and

bandits, who had been gathering and forming semi-organizations along the coast and in the southern and inaccessible portions of Taylor and La Fayette Counties, and who had become emboldened to acts of plunder and spoliation by reason of the withdrawal of troops from that region for the purpose of meeting the invasion by the enemy in the eastern portion of the State. South Florida, by reason of the same causes, was infested with similar bands. In each of these regions the enemy was known to be inciting the disaffected to deeds of disloyalty, plunder, and bloodshed, furnishing arms, subsistence, clothing, and encouragement to all who would desert the Confederate colors and resist the enforcement of the Confederate laws. In this way several planters in Jefferson and Madison Counties, bordering on the disaffected region of Taylor and La Fayette, lost a number of slaves, who were either enticed or taken by force away, and who found their way to the enemy's vessels along the Gulf coast between Saint Mark's and Tampa. Cattle were also stolen and carried to the enemy from those counties in South Florida whence has been drawn a large proportion of the beef supplied by our commissaries of subsistence.

Brigadier-General Gardner, in whose sub-district are Taylor and La Fayette Counties, was directed to take vigorous and prompt steps to suppress the lawlessness of these bandits within the limits of his command, and preparations were made to use like measures against those in South Florida so soon as a sufficient force for that purpose could be safely detached from our main force, then confronting superior numbers at Jacksonville. In the mean time, however, and about the 4th March, General Beauregard issued a proclamation offering pardon, on certain conditions, to those in South Florida who had deserted from the Confederate Army, or who were absent from it without leave, and to those who were evading conscription. On the 20th March, the Governor of the State issued a similar proclamation, approved by the general commanding, addressed to and affecting those similarly situated in Taylor and La Fayette Counties. Some availed themselves of the terms of this latter proclamation; how many, I am unable to state, though it is believed that the number was not large. A few also in South Florida embraced the terms offered them, but most of that few are believed to have either gone back to the enemy or are remaining at home, where it is difficult to lay hands on them. By the terms of the proclamation they were to report themselves to the agents of the Subsistence Department in that region, and were to be detailed to remain there as cattle drivers.

In the latter part of March, General Beauregard left Florida for Carolina, having first explained to me his views and instructions in regard to future operations. At this time our effective force operating near Jacksonville was as follows: Infantry, 6,290; cavalry, 1,568; artillery, 487; and that of the enemy in Jacksonville was estimated at 10,000 of all arms, with 1,500 at Palatka, and from 500 to 1,000 at each of the places Saint Augustine and Fernandina.

Having succeeded by the 1st of April, through the energy and skill of Capt. E. Pliny Bryan, of General Beauregard's staff, in planting a number of torpedoes in the channel of the Saint John's River, about 15 miles above Jacksonville, by which the enemy's communication with his garrison at Palatka was rendered precarious, and deeming it probable now that another advance on his part was not contemplated, a vigorous assault upon Palatka which

would result in its capture was thought to be practicable. This belief was greatly encouraged by the fact, on the morning of the 1st of April, at 4 o'clock, one of the largest transports\* of the enemy while descending the river from Palatka exploded a torpedo and sunk in 3 fathoms of water. A section of artillery, under Lieutenant Gamble, supported by infantry under command of Captain Grieve, First Georgia Regulars, was dispatched at once to complete the wreck. They reached the bank of the river opposite the wreck a little before daylight on the 2d, and after firing a few rounds at that portion of the boat which was above water, Captain Bryan, with 2 men, boarded her and set fire to her upper works, which soon reduced them to the water's edge. She proved to be the double-stack, side-wheel steamer *Maple Leaf*, and was loaded with the camp and garrison equipage of three regiments recently arrived at Jacksonville on account of some hurried necessity which required her first to proceed up to Palatka. On the 2d of April, therefore, Brigadier-General Finegan was directed to proceed by rail from Baldwin to Waldo with about 2,500 infantry and six pieces of artillery; thence by the nearest practicable route to Palatka, which place he was to attack and carry, after which he was to be governed by circumstances and await further orders. Between Waldo and Palatka he was to be joined by Lieutenant-Colonel Martin, Sixth Florida Battalion, with about 400 infantry, and Lieutenant-Colonel Harris, Fourth Georgia Cavalry, with the same number of cavalry. On account of the condition of the transportation by rail from Baldwin to Waldo he was provokingly detained, consuming more hours than miles traveled in reaching the latter place. It had been expected he would reach Palatka in time to commence the assault on the morning of the 4th, and he had not been able to move his whole command from Waldo, which is distant from Palatka about 38 miles.

On the night of the 3d April, our scout in the river between the bar and Jacksonville reported the following arrivals at Jacksonville from sea, viz:

The *Canonicus*, with a few white troops; the *Dictator*, crowded with negro troops; large black steamer, with a few white troops and horses; the *Mary Benton*, a good many white troops, horses, and mules; the *Delaware*, crowded with white troops; a black transport, largest size, crowded with white troops; a large nameless transport, crowded with white troops. And early on the morning of the 4th the same scout reported the following arrivals, viz: A gunboat, crowded with horses and men; two large transports, crowded with men and horses. On the 30th March, the *Maple Leaf* and *Charles Houghton* had arrived with men and horses on board.

Under these circumstances it was deemed prudent to recall Finegan, which was done on the 5th instant. On that night, too, the same scout reported the arrival in the afternoon of a large transport, crowded with horses and a few men, and after dark another large white transport; could not tell if she had troops.

These indications pointed to another attempt on the part of the enemy to advance into the interior of and occupy the State. All of our available force was held in hand, and every preparation made to meet him.

In the mean time Brigadier-General Gardner, with a small force and by vigorous measures, had succeeded to a great extent in break-

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\*The *Maple Leaf*.



ing up the rendezvous of the deserters, &c., in Taylor County and La Fayette, and in restoring quiet, and establishing a sense of security along the borders of Madison and Jefferson, the threatened settlements. As yet I have received no detailed report of these operations and am therefore unable to speak of them, except in general terms.

South Florida, though being more distant and very difficult of access by our troops, was still infested by bands of deserters, skulkers, and Yankees, whose numbers and depredations were daily increasing. Threatened by such a force as the enemy then had at Jacksonville, it would have been extremely imprudent, if not criminally rash, to have made any detachment from our main force in front of Jacksonville, for the purpose of operating in a field so distant as that which comprises the haunts of these outlaws.

On the 12th of April, the enemy withdrew his garrison from Palatka. One regiment of negro troops (Kansas), under Montgomery, was transferred to the opposite (east) side of the Saint John's, at the village, Picolata, where it still remains, partially fortified, and having a few pieces of light artillery in the works. The other four regiments composing the garrison at Palatka were either sent across to Saint Augustine and then took shipping for the north, or they marched down the Saint John's on the east side to Jacksonville. As the peninsula embraced between the lower Saint John's and the Atlantic, forming the parallelogram on the map, Saint Augustine, Picolata, Jacksonville, and mouth of Saint John's is wholly within the enemy's possession and very difficult of access by our scouts, it was impossible to keep ourselves well advised of all his movements on that side of the river; hence I am uncertain as to the movements of the four regiments above referred to, after they left Palatka.

On the 8th day of April, the enemy commenced sending troops away from Jacksonville by sea, and has continued to do so up to the 11th May, as per reports of scouts on the banks of the river below Jacksonville, of which the following are extracts:

*April 8.*—One transport, 300 to 500 troops.

*April 9.*—Two transports, one with 200 or 300, one with 300 or 400 troops.

*April 13.*—Three transports loaded with troops; and the Charles Houghton made three trips to some point just below Jacksonville, loaded each trip with troops.

*April 15.*—One transport loaded with troops.

*April 16.*—Four transports loaded with from 1,500 to 2,000 troops.

*April 17.*—Two transports loaded with 800 troops.

*April 20.*—One transport loaded with 600 troops.

*April 21.*—Two transports (one had about 600 troops).

*April 22.*—Two transports loaded with troops and horses.

*April 23.*—One transport loaded with troops and horses.

*April 24.*—One transport loaded with 500 or 600 troops.

*April 25.*—Two large steamers loaded with troops.

*April 27.*—Two transports, some troops on board.

*April 28.*—One steamer loaded with wagons and artillery.

*April 29.*—One large steamer loaded with troops.

*May 9.*—One transport loaded with troops. The Mary Benton, horses and many troops.

I have estimated that the troops sent off from Jacksonville as above reported amount in all to about 9,200. Other vessels have

left Jacksonville between the 8th April and the 11th May, but either few troops were on them, or they passed down the river in the night so that the scout could not see whether they contained troops or not. It is possible that 1,500 should be added to the above estimate to cover all who were sent off without our knowledge.

There have been sent off from this district the following troops at dates annexed:

*April 14.*—The Eleventh South Carolina Regiment.

*April 16.*—The Fifty-ninth Virginia Regiment.

*April 16 and 17.*—The Eighteenth South Carolina.

*April 17.*—A siege train, Major Buist.

*April 17.*—Twenty-sixth Virginia Regiment.

*April 19.*—Colquitt's brigade, Thirty-second Georgia Regiment, Wheaton's battery, Guerard's battery.

*April 21.*—Gamble's battery.

*April 23.*—Fourth Georgia Cavalry.

*April 29.*—Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment.

*May 2.*—Volunteers for Navy, 97 men in all.

*May 4.*—Fifth Georgia Cavalry Regiment.

*May 7.*—First Georgia Regulars.

All of the cavalry, and part of the infantry and artillery above mentioned, were sent across the country from Camp Milton, in Florida, to Tebeauville, Ga., that being deemed the most expeditious route to Savannah under all the circumstances.

On the 24th of April, the Sixty-fourth Regiment Georgia Volunteers was detached and sent to South Florida for service against the deserters and Yankees in that region. No field officer being present for duty with the regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Brevard, of the Second Florida Battalion, whose familiarity with the country and citizens where operations were proposed to be carried on, and upon whose judgment, skill, and courage reliance could be placed, was assigned to the command of the expedition. His instructions were of a general character, to arrest deserters, skulkers, punish and drive out plunderers and Yankees, and to afford every assistance in his power to the agents of the Government whose duty it was to collect beef-cattle for the army, and to the farmers in the legitimate pursuit of their business. He had only proceeded a little over 100 miles and reached the borders of the field of operations, when the order to send the Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment to Carolina reached me by telegraph. The terms of the dispatch were so urgent as to induce me to recall this regiment at once. As soon, however, as new dispositions could be made and transportation obtained, another force (Bonaud's battalion) was sent to the same quarter, under Lieutenant-Colonel Brevard, with instructions as before.

In the mean time the enemy, led on and re-enforced by deserters and disloyals, made predatory raids upon the coast, destroying salt-works, stealing cattle, and burning dwellings. On the 22d April, they came a short distance up the Suwannee River in launches, and carried off 20 or 30 bales of cotton and burned (as reported by citizens) about 300 more, of which 14 belonged to the Government. On the 6th May, they landed at Tampa and arrested several citizens, but what other acts were perpetrated by them I have as yet been unable to learn. On the following night they are reported to have destroyed the village of Brooksville, but this needs confirmation (since ascertained to have been without foundation).

In the mean time Lieutenant-Colonel Brevard had been diverted somewhat from his direct course to the southern coast for the purpose, if possible, of cutting off or punishing a raiding party of the enemy from Saint Augustine, who had made their way southward on the east side of the Saint John's, and were reported to be crossing over at Volusia, or a point not far above, for the purpose of driving off cattle and negroes from the settlement near Ocala and south of that place. As he has no cavalry (no forage in the country and too far to transport it) I do not anticipate any other results against these last-mentioned raiders than to cause them to return to Saint Augustine and Jacksonville. But it is believed that much good will be derived from the expedition generally, by reason of the protection which will be afforded by it to the agents of the Commissary Department engaged in the collection of beef-cattle in that region, as well as the confidence its presence will inspire in the loyal slave owners and planters, whose property and operations have been threatened. In any of these expeditions, however, upon the coast the most that can be accomplished with the means at hand is to drive the lawless bands from the mainland. When this has been done they take refuge on the innumerable islands and keys along the coast, from which, with the assistance of their small boats, and re-enforced from their blockading vessels, they can make descents on the mainland, whenever our troops are withdrawn, or at points impossible to be guarded. To remedy this I propose to construct boats of a light draught, suitable for the purpose, in which we can take the offensive against these island rendezvous. With half a dozen such crafts, carrying from 20 to 25 men, each convoyed by a larger one, but of light draught, carrying a boat howitzer, I am of the opinion the islands might in time be entirely cleared of the outlaws. The depth of water for some distance seaward does not allow of gun-boats approaching within range of these keys, and but rarely could the enemy use his larger-sized launches efficaciously against such a fleet as I have described. I have therefore directed the quartermaster to procure the building of such boats, under the supervision of an able and skillful steamboatman, whose experience in matters of the kind is believed to be such as will insure success.

The cost to the Government will be trifling, compared with the results. As yet it cannot be definitely ascertained. Most of the work is being done by details of the army. It is believed, too, that great damage could be inflicted upon the enemy's water craft in the Saint John's River, if a torpedo-boat, such as I have learned has been tested in the waters of Charleston Harbor, could be procured to operate against them. There are now, and have been for more than a month, four gun-boats between Picolata and the mouth of the river. Innumerable creeks, bays, and lakes empty their waters into the Saint John's on its east side, which is in our possession. Several of these streams are navigable by steamers drawing 5 and 6 feet water for several miles in the interior. From these, torpedo-boats could easily reach the river, perform their work, and return within our lines at any time in a few hours. Through Captain Chisolm, of General Beauregard's staff, I applied to Mr. Wagner, of Charleston (who I learned from Captain Chisolm had the control of one or two of these boats), for one to operate in the waters, and in the manner I have described, but was unable to procure it. Captain Lee, of the Engineers, temporarily of my staff, who is eminently practical and somewhat of a machinist and mechanic withal, thinks he can



construct one of these boats with the workmen now in his employ, and with material that can be obtained within the district. He is now engaged upon a plan and specifications, and is making an estimate of costs, &c., and when submitted, if deemed feasible, I propose to adopt it, and to assign him, in addition to his other duties, to that of superintending its construction; in all of which I would be pleased to have the approval of the major-general commanding.

As Jacksonville has been the base of the enemy's operations in Florida, and the point at which his invading forces were concentrated, I have, up to this time, since my arrival in the district deemed it my duty to remain at this point, and superintend in person the military operations of the Confederate forces here collected to meet him. But as the season has passed when he may be expected to do more than send small raiding parties into the country from under his gun-boats, I shall deem it my duty in a few days to visit other portions of the district in Middle and West Florida, the wants and necessities of which can be better ascertained in that way; after which, should it be deemed necessary to a better understanding of the military situation in the district, this narrative will be resumed and made to embrace localities, &c., not touched upon at this time.

I am, captain, &c.,

PATTON ANDERSON,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Capt. H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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### MARCH 13, 1864.—Capture of C. S. steamer Sumter in Lake George, Fla.

#### REPORTS.\*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Truman Seymour, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding brigade.

#### No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Truman Seymour, U. S. Army.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., March 16, 1864.*

GENERAL: It is this morning reported to me by Colonel Barton, commanding at Palatka, that on the 13th instant the Columbine, U. S. armed tug, captured the small steamer Sumter in Lake George. The Sumter was at once armed and manned and sent after the Hattie Brock, believed to have about 150 bales of cotton on board; and probably ere this she has also been taken. The passengers and crew of the Sumter were taken, among them the former owner of the Saint Mary's, Mr. Cable. Colonel Barton reports also that his scouts give information of a force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery at about 6 miles inland from Palatka. Some twelve guns are reported. Should these rumors be confirmed, measures will be taken

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\*For report of Commander George B. Balch, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

to place Palatka in a perfectly secure condition ; in fact, it is believed to be so now, except so far as heavy guns may be needed there. I have requested Captain Balch, U. S. Navy, to send the Ottawa or other gun-boat to Palatka immediately. Guns will be sent up to-night. Colonel Barton urges that 50 horses should be supplied to him for cavalry service ; but as I cannot spare any part of the mounted force from this point, I shall to-night send him 50 horses with saddles and bridles, so that he may mount a company of infantry temporarily. This course is preferred by Colonel Barton also. But I trust the mounted cavalry force here will soon be greatly increased, as the preponderating amount of the enemy's cavalry prevents our own, at present, from being of much use.

And I am, respectfully, your obedient servant.

T. SEYMOUR,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brigadier-General TURNER,

*Chief of Staff.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS BARTON'S BRIGADE,

*Palatka, Fla., March 15, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the steamer Sumter was captured on the 13th instant in Big Lake George, 75 miles distant from this place, by the U. S. gun-boat Columbine. Having been properly armed and manned, was at once dispatched up the Saint John's for the purpose of securing the Hattie Brock, ascertained to be within reach. I have no doubt that ere this the Brock has shared the fate of the Sumter. There is also reason to believe that with the Brock over 150 bales of cotton have been taken.

The parties making these captures deserve great credit, for although they met no armed opposition they encountered and overcame great difficulties arising from difficult navigation, &c.

The passengers and crew of the Sumter have been turned over to me and are forwarded by the General Hunter, with the exception of the captain, who has gone as pilot up the river, and 2 passengers sick in hospital. Mr. Cable, former owner of the steamer Saint Mary's, will be found among them, and I think that the brigadier-general commanding would do well to see him, as he is intelligent and thoroughly posted. He claims to be a friend of Judge Burrit.

I believe that I can capture the only remaining steamer (the Silver Spring) if the steamer Island City can be sent to me for a short time. By means of her I can land a small mounted force at a point up the river beyond the Ocklawaha and within 25 miles of Silver Springs. Their route would be through a country sparsely settled, and, as I have the best reason for believing, entirely free from troops. They would have an excellent prospect of either bringing away or burning the steamer and destroying considerable property belonging to the Confederate Government. I have also learned where there is a quantity of cotton stored, which I can obtain with the aid of the Island City. Cannot she or some similar boat be at once sent to me, at least temporarily ?

There are large quantities of bittersweet and sour oranges at various places, which, when the means are afforded, I will collect and forward for the use of troops in hospital, to whom they would be invaluable. I would in this connection call the attention of the brigadier-general commanding to the fact that there are said to be 500,000 sweet oranges near New Smyrna, which could be obtained if a boat was sent from Saint Augustine for them.

A scouting party whose statement I deem reliable this morning discovered, at a point some 6 miles in our front, a considerable force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, there being some twelve pieces of the latter. Earth-works were also reported. Strange as it may seem I think there is every reason to believe the above statement correct. A number of scouts are now being sent out to investigate fully as to the reliability, and I will report further by first opportunity.

I am exceedingly crippled by lack of horses for my outpost, scouting, and other duty. The battery horses, being on duty constantly, are fast breaking down. Cannot at least 50 horses be sent me at once with equipments? I should prefer this to having cavalry, and assure the brigadier-general commanding that I will make them pay for themselves very soon. No saddles have as yet been received.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,

*Colonel Forty-eighth New York Vols., Comdg. Brig.*

Capt. P. R. CHADWICK,

*Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Florida.*

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### MARCH 16, 1864.—Skirmish near Palatka, Fla.

*Report of Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS BARTON'S BRIGADE,  
*Palatka, Fla., March 17, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I had the honor to receive the communication, 16th instant, of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, commanding District of Florida. All the directions therein contained shall be carefully carried out, and if any time an exigency should require any change, district headquarters will be immediately notified.

The Ottawa has not yet made her appearance. The Hunter went down nearly to Picolata, but could see nothing of her. She has not coal enough on board to make a second trip, but will tow her over the flats if she meets her on the way down to-night. The Columbine has not yet returned, but as she is in good hands I do not as yet feel any anxiety in regard to her.

The scouting party about being sent out at the time of my last writing has returned safely, but were unable to penetrate beyond the enemy's advance, which consisted of cavalry, perhaps a regiment (Georgia and Florida troops). I am inclined to think that the force of infantry and artillery referred to in my last were not overstated.

At 1 p. m. yesterday my outlying (mounted) pickets were attacked by a considerable cavalry force of the rebels and driven in, 2 of them



being unfortunately captured. I at once deployed a heavy line of infantry skirmishers and occupied the ground from which the pickets had been driven, of course materially altering the position of the latter. The loss of these men was in a great measure owing to the imperfection of their mount and equipments. I trust to do better with the mounted force I am now organizing, under command of Captain Shaw, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, an officer with some cavalry experience.

The defensive works here are very [much] pushed forward and will soon be entirely complete. I am organizing a thorough system of scouting, which, I think, will be useful and reliable.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,

*Colonel Forty-eighth New York Vols., Comdg. Brig.*

Capt. P. R. CHADWICK,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 25, 1864.—Affair at McClellansville, S. C.**

*Report of Capt. Christopher Gaillard, Santee (South Carolina) Light Artillery).\**

HEADQUARTERS POST,

*McClellansville, S. C., March 25, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I respectfully report that about 7.30 o'clock this morning Lieut. P. C. Drake reported to me that the three barges laden with Federal troops had approached the steamer Little Ada and had taken possession of the vessel. I immediately ordered Company M under arms and placed my section of artillery in the most available position, distant about 1,200 yards from the vessel. I soon discovered that they were making preparations to carry the vessel out, and I ordered the guns to be fired upon them, with such effect as to compel them to abandon the vessel. Twenty-one shots were fired, 5 of which took effect.

During the engagement the chief engineer of the vessel was slightly wounded in the head and leg by splinters from the side of the vessel, and 1 of the enemy was wounded in the head and captured. The vessel was not materially injured, and as soon as I could send a detachment on board they went in pursuit of the enemy, but did not succeed in overtaking them.

The result of to-day's firing has convinced me that vessels entering at this place can be successfully protected by rifled guns, and I respectfully ask that the application for my rifled section at Mount Pleasant be made again.

Respectfully,

C. GAILLARD,

*Captain, Commanding Post.*

Capt. WILLIAM GREENE,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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\* For report of Lieut. Commander Aaron W. Weaver, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

## MARCH 31, 1864.—Skirmish at Palatka, Fla.

*Report of Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding U. S. Forces.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Palatka, Fla., March 31, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have had the honor to receive the communication of Lieut. R. M. Hall, acting assistant adjutant-general, under date of March 30, which I presume to have been written by direction of the brigadier-general commanding the district, although there is nothing therein to indicate this with certainty. In compliance with its directions, I am having the ground surveyed for the erection of a small intrenchment on the heights. In my judgment, however, it will be rather a disadvantage than otherwise. If placed sufficiently near the river on the left to render its not being surrounded certain the line for its garrison will be a difficult one.

My scouts returned yesterday, having learned that it is the general belief among the troops in our front that it is designed to attack this place at an early day with an infantry force of some 8,000 men and all the artillery that can be spared, and that the forces for this or some other purpose are being massed upon the Micanopy road. Statements to this effect I have also received from several other sources. I am inclined to doubt their correctness, but, of course, shall act in my preparation for defense as if they were entirely authenticated. The woods and underbrush are being rapidly cleared away wherever they can afford cover to the enemy, and everything possible is being done to strengthen our line of works. I have taken the responsibility of directing that the houses in front of our left be so prepared that they can be destroyed in a moment if it becomes necessary, and this destruction will do away with a serious objection to that part of the line. Inclosed I send, for the information of the commanding general, copy of a circular issued yesterday detailing more fully than I had previously done my disposition for defense. I have added the re-enforcements ordered to report to me to the reserves. In my judgment at least one additional gun of not less range than 30-pounder Parrott should at once [be] sent here. The artillery I now have, with the exception of the 18-pounder, is light, and I am laboring under difficulties with respect to ammunition for them, which I have requested Captain Langdon, chief of artillery, to explain on arrival at headquarters. If the enemy should bring artillery of corresponding range I should be in a position to fight them with the same. Not less than 100 more axes should also be sent at once. A requisition has been sent by this mail for coal, for the reason that vessels habitually come here with but one or two days' supply. The Hunter, for instance, has only sufficient to last for two days, and in case of difficulties between here and Jacksonville would be of little use. The gun-boat may also run short from the same cause. The arms called for should, I think, be sent up to-morrow night. I should be glad if the five companies of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers now at or near Jacksonville could be ordered to rejoin their regiment here. Colonel Hartwell is exceedingly anxious to have his regiment together, and I would like to have it all here. In expectation of a dash by the enemy's cavalry upon our pickets, I yesterday and to-day ambushed

a small force of infantry in range [with] the mounted vedettes. The looked-for attack was made this p. m., and a brisk skirmish ensued, with no casualties on our side, but with some, I trust, on the part of the enemy.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,

*Colonel Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, Comdg.*

Capt. P. R. CHADWICK,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MARCH 31, 1864.—Affair at Spring Island, S. C.**

*Report of Col. Charlton H. Way, Fifty-fourth Georgia Infantry, commanding sub-district.\**

HEADQUARTERS HARDEEVILLE SUB-DISTRICT,

*March 31, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that at 11 o'clock to-day one gun-boat and a tug proceeded up the Colleton River as far as the upper end of Spring Island. Stopping first at Seabrook's settlement, they landed a small party, apparently for the purpose of reconnoitering. The 2 pickets stationed there fired upon them, with what effect is not known. The party returned to the boat after having stolen a gun, a saddle, and some clothing, belonging to Mr. Crowell. I ordered Colonel Johnson's cavalry down immediately, but before they could reach the spot the boats had returned.

The enemy have been reconnoitering Foot Point and its vicinity for the last two or three days, usually in small boats, and may possibly intend landing there in force. The general commanding is fully aware of the utter impracticability of holding Foot Point should the enemy design occupying it in force. If anything serious is meant by these movements, their intention must be simply to land and hold the position as a base upon the mainland. The general commanding may rely upon my using all the means at my disposal to prevent and thwart their designs, and upon my giving him prompt information in regard to anything which may occur.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLTON H. WAY,

*Colonel, Commanding Sub-District.*

Capt. JAMES LOWNDES,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

*Pocotaligo, April 2, 1864.*

I do not think the enemy feel strong enough to occupy the mainland. If I were in command of them, however, with their resources, I would consider it practicable and safe to occupy and fortify the peninsula of Foot Point.

W. S. WALKER,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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\*For report of Lieut. Commander Edward E. Stone, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.



[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,  
Savannah, April 5, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the commanding general.

The strength of the enemy at present is probably not sufficient for them to make a lodgment on the mainland.

J. F. GILMER,  
Major-General, Commanding.

**APRIL 1, 1864.—Destruction of U. S. transport Maple Leaf in Saint John's River, Fla.**

REPORTS.\*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.

No. 2.—Capt. E. Pliny Bryan, Assistant Adjutant-General, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
Jacksonville, Fla., April 1, 1864.

GENERAL: Since the departure of General Gillmore from the district there has nothing of interest occurred with the unfortunate exception of the loss of the steamer Maple Leaf, which was destroyed by a torpedo at 4 a. m. this morning. I had found it necessary to send the Maple Leaf to Palatka with troops. She arrived there safely, in company with the Weed and Hunter. The last two remained at that post in accordance with your instructions. On her return the Maple Leaf struck a torpedo at a point 12 miles above this place and sunk in about seven minutes. Her upper works are out of water. A gun-boat has gone up to lie by her and make a report as to the amount of injury she has received. Two firemen and 2 servants are supposed to have been drowned. The baggage and camp equipage of the One hundred and twelfth and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York and the Thirteenth Indiana Regiments was on board, not having been removed from the steamer on its arrival from Hilton Head.

Colonel Barton reports skirmishing at his pickets. The rumors are that a large force of the enemy are concentrating in front of him. He does not attach much importance to the rumor, but remains well on his guard. I have sent him thus far one additional regiment of infantry and two small companies of cavalry. Will send the other troops as soon as possible. I am now organizing a boat battalion to scout the river, and hope that it, under the cover of a cavalry force, will be able to keep the river open hereafter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,  
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,  
Chief of Staff.

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\* See also Beauregard's report, p. 115, and Anderson's report, p. 370.

## No. 2.

*Report of Capt. E. Pliny Bryan, Assistant Adjutant-General, C. S. Army.*

CAMP MILTON, April 4, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that in compliance with instructions from Col. D. B. Harris, chief engineer, I placed 12 torpedoes, containing each 70 pounds small-grain cannon powder, in the Saint John's River, near Mandarin Point, during Wednesday night, March 30. I found the channel wide, about 25 feet deep, with very muddy bottom.

Early Friday morning, April 1, I discovered a steamer, supposed to be the *Maple Leaf*, sunk off Mandarin Point. On account of the wind I could not board her until Saturday morning, April 2, at which time she was fired in three places and burnt. The water was about 2 feet deep on the upper cabin deck. But few things could have been saved by the enemy, as the vessel must have sunk in a few moments. She apparently was greatly damaged by the explosion. A few mattresses, sofas, wash-bowls, and other unimportant articles were left in the upper cabin. From her length, width, size, and general appearance I suppose her to be a first-class vessel.

I take pleasure in bringing to your notice the names of the party engaged in the affair: Lieut. J. D. O'Hern, Corpl. John Brantly, and Privates Musco Crenshaw and William Taylor, of Company F, and John Frisbee, of Company B, all of Second Florida Battalion.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. PLINY BRYAN,

*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Maj. Gen. P. ANDERSON,

*Comdg. District of Florida, Camp Milton.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,

*In the Field, April 4, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the general commanding.

Captain Bryan deserves much credit for the activity he displayed and labor performed in bringing about the result here reported. He has inflicted heavy loss upon the enemy, and taught him to be cautious in the navigation of our waters.

PATTON ANDERSON,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

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APRIL 1, 1864.—Expedition from Palatka to Fort Gates, Fla.

*Report of Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding U. S. Forces.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,

*Palatka, Fla., April 3, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have had the honor to receive the communication of the 2d instant from the brigadier-general commanding the district, and have carefully noted its contents. Measures have already been taken to carry out the directions contained therein.

On the morning of the 1st, I sent the Harriet A. Weed, having on board about 25 men from the One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, under command of Capt. S. P. Smith, of that regiment (and provost-marshal at this place), up the Saint John's River for the purpose of capturing a rebel picket which I had learned was stationed at or near Fort Gates, some 32 miles distant. The expedition returned at dark the same evening, bringing with them a sergeant and 9 men from the Fifth Georgia Cavalry and 13 horses, with the arms, trappings, and accouterments belonging to the party, all without firing a shot. Captain Smith deserves the greatest credit for the skill with which he managed this little affair. In order to bring away the horses he was obliged to swim them over the Saint John's River (two at a time), force them through a swamp previously regarded as impassable for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and rode them to Welaka, the only place in the vicinity where they could be taken on board the steamer. All this was accomplished in about nineteen hours, which included the time occupied in traveling 64 miles. The reserve was first captured, our men mounted on their horses, and went out to the men on post, whom they approached without exciting suspicion and easily secured. The prisoners are sent by the Houghton to Jacksonville. As an offset to this I would state a sergeant and 3 men belonging to the Massachusetts cavalry were captured on the night of the 1st, while on the outpost picket. They were on a post deemed quite secure, at least from accidents of this sort. I trust that I shall not be obliged to record any more of these annoying occurrences, as I have rearranged the whole system of picket. Yet, with the large force of cavalry in our front and their perfect knowledge of the country, it is extremely difficult to guard entirely against such accidents. My scouts still bring me reports as to the increase of the infantry and artillery of the enemy in this vicinity. I also hear constantly of their purpose to build heavy batteries to command the river, and I am endeavoring to obtain some definite information as to the place proposed for their erection. It is of the last importance that at least fifteen days' supply should be constantly on hand here. I would respectfully call the attention of the commanding general to requisitions for shell for my 10-pounder, sent by this mail to Captain Langdon, chief of artillery, and would request that measures be taken to forward the supply called for at once. My only anxiety is in regard to supplies, particularly ammunition. I am confident in regard to my ability to repel any attack that the enemy can make so long as they hold out. I shall husband them carefully.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. P. R. CHADWICK,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

#### ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
No. 19. } *Jacksonville, Fla., April 3, 1864.*

I. The brigadier-general commanding desires to make known to his command the successful accomplishment of a daring and difficult expedition by a detachment of 25 men of the One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, commanded by Capt. S. P. Smith, of



the same regiment. This little party, sent from Palatka to a point 32 miles from the post, surprised and captured a picket of the enemy consisting of 1 sergeant and 9 men, with their arms, and 13 horses and equipments complete. To bring off the horses it was necessary to swim them across the Saint John's River and force them for 1½ miles through a swamp previously considered impracticable. The energy, intrepidity, and skill with which this expedition was conducted demands the praise of the commander of this district, and the imitation of troops hereafter detached on similar expeditions.

II. The brigadier-general commanding announces that the marine battery, which was so promptly and cheerfully placed on the line of our intrenchments when they were first thrown up in the vicinity of Jacksonville, and at a time when it was much needed, has been ordered on board the sloop of war Mahaska. He takes this opportunity to return his thanks to Capt. G. B. Balch, commanding U. S. naval forces on the Saint John's River, for his kindness, and to Ensign Augustus E. French, and the petty officers and men under him, for their valuable services, very good conduct, and exhibition of excellent discipline throughout their intercourse with the troops of this command.

III. First Lieut. Peter S. Michie, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, is relieved from duty in the District of Florida, and will report at the headquarters Department of the South.

IV. First Lieut. Charles R. Suter, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, having been assigned to duty in this district, is hereby announced as chief engineer.

V. First Lieut. E. N. K. Talcott, First New York Volunteer Engineers, having been assigned to duty in charge of the engineer depot at Jacksonville, is relieved from duty as aide-de-camp.

VI. First Lieut. Edgar B. Van Winkle, One hundred and third New York Volunteers, is hereby announced as aide-de-camp to the commanding general.

By order of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch :

R. M. HALL,  
*First Lieut., First U. S. Artillery, A. A. A. G.*

#### APRIL 2, 1864.—Skirmish on Cedar Creek, Fla.

##### REPORTS.

No. 1. Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.

No. 2. Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, commanding Light Brigade.

##### No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., April 3, 1864.*

GENERAL : There is no change in the situation here. The enemy occupy the same position as when General Gillmore was last in the district.

A reconnaissance made yesterday by Colonel Henry with his cavalry, supported by two regiments of infantry, developed a strong line at Cedar Creek, probably two regiments of cavalry and two of infantry.

A young man named Margroum came through the lines yesterday; he is intelligent, although uneducated. To-day a captain of the Sixty-fourth Georgia Infantry, accompanied by 1 private of his company, came in. I send all three to your headquarters. They have taken the oath of allegiance, and desire to go North. Ten deserters, banded together for their protection, crossed the river yesterday, and were to-day sent in by the boat battalion. All tell about the same story. The enemy in our front is about 10,000 strong; about 12,000 rations are issued. The force in front of Palatka is about two regiments. The Georgia captain had been for some time in arrest, charged with making false muster.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff.*

The casualties yesterday were 8 wounded; the enemy reported to have suffered severely.

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No. 2.

*Report of Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, commanding Light Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT BRIGADE,

*April 2, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions from the general commanding, I made a reconnaissance this afternoon. My force consisted of three squadrons of cavalry, four pieces of artillery, and two regiments of infantry, Seventy-fifth Ohio and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York. One squadron of cavalry I sent out on the King's road, supported by five companies of infantry, and one company of infantry along the plank road. This force was to attract the enemy's attention, while with the main force I attacked their right. I drove in the pickets of the enemy with my cavalry, but they fell back to Cedar Creek. The Seventy-fifth Ohio was then thrown forward as skirmishers. The enemy was posted in the woods at the creek, in a very strong position. To drive them from it it was necessary to cross an open country, which would have resulted in some loss of life, without any reason, as we would have been obliged to retire and be exposed to fire both ways. The enemy seemed to have a front of about 1,200, deployed as skirmishers, on their left. They gave way after some skirmishing, and proceeded toward Camp Finegan. All the passes across Cedar Creek seemed to be barricaded.

We lost none killed, but 8 wounded. We captured 25 head of cattle and 1 horse. The rebel loss must have been some 20 or 30, as a number were seen to fall.

The men behaved well, particularly the Seventy-fifth Ohio, who skirmished very finely.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GUY V. HENRY,

*Col. 40th Mass. Mounted Infy., Comdg. Light Brig.*

Lieut. R. M. HALL,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**APRIL 2, 1864.—Skirmish at Cow Ford Creek, near Pensacola, Fla.****REPORTS.**

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Capt. Adolph Schmidt, Fourteenth New York Cavalry.

**No. 1.***Reports of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army.***HEADQUARTERS PENSACOLA,  
Barrancas, April 4, 1864.**

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, having been informed on the 2d instant at noon that several mounted rebels had approached our picket line, I immediately sent out Captain Schmidt, Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, with 30 of his men. The captain, on passing the light-house, came upon tracks of horses in the sand, and after following them around the head of the Bayou Grand several miles, suddenly came up with them drawn up in line of battle, in a well-chosen position across the Cow Ford Creek, on the Pensacola road. The rebels opened a vigorous fire upon our men, who, although outnumbered two to one, gallantly charged them and succeeded, after a sharp hand-to-hand fight, in capturing 1 lieutenant, 2 sergeants, and 8 men, and taking 6 horses, 21 muskets, and 4 sabers. It is the opinion of Captain Schmidt that the rebels lost from 10 to 15 killed and wounded, in addition to the prisoners.

The casualties on our side are: First Lieut. B. von Lengercke, Sergeant von Rosenfels, and Private Endres, wounded (the latter dangerously), 4 horses killed and 5 wounded.

The prisoners will proceed under guard on the steamer North-erner to New Orleans, to be reported there to the provost-marshal-general of the department.

I beg to inclose Captain Schmidt's report and the roll of the prisoners of war captured by him.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

**ASBOTH,**  
*Brigadier-General.*

Lieut. Col. **RICHARD B. IRWIN,**  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
Barrancas, April 4, 1864.**

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report of March 8, No. 138, the following additional information in regard to the affairs in my neighborhood, received from refugees and deserters:

The rebels have concentrated a considerable force at Pollard, Ala., estimated at from 8,000 to 10,000 men, principally re-enforcements sent, during General Sherman's raid, from Johnston's army to Mobile. They are also concentrating a force about 2,000 strong, infantry, artillery, and cavalry, in Walton County, Fla., with



headquarters at McDade's Pond, between Yellow and Pea Rivers, scouting down the Boggy Bayou, opposite East Pass, and upward on the north side of the Choctawhatchee Bay to the Four-Mile Landing.

The Perdido is also more closely guarded at present and an additional cavalry force stationed at Camp Pond, above Camp Withers, with a view to prevent deserters from entering our lines and to intercept the Union soldiers who made their escape from the prison at Cahawba, Ala.

Since our reverse in East Florida the rebels have become more enterprising in their movements and more bitter in their persecutions of all who show any sympathy for the Union. They take from them everything of any use to the army and wantonly destroy the rest; they take the lives of all who attempt to escape from their lines or who assist others to do so.

Mr. Alfred Holly came in yesterday, reporting that while leaving Boggy Bayou for East Pass in a skiff, with 5 others (all members of the Bass family, residing there), the rebels fired upon them, killing 3 and wounding 2, who are now in our hospital.

I have, as already reported, a recruiting officer at East Pass, with a squad of 10 men, but I have no force to send against those robbers and no steamer for transportation. To prevent the entire ruin of those unfortunate Union families and secure us the control over West Florida, it would be desirable that at the next advance of the Federal forces in East Florida a combined movement be made also in West Florida, by adequate forces from Barrancas, Boggy Bayou, opposite East Pass, Washington Point, the head of Choctawhatchee Bay, and Saint Mark's, the terminus of the Tallahassee railroad.

In conclusion, I beg to report that Captain Schmidt, Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, with 30 of his company, had a very successful engagement on the 2d instant with a scouting party of rebel cavalry on the Pensacola road, 4 miles from Bayou Grand, resulting in the capture of 1 lieutenant, 2 sergeants, and 8 privates of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, with 6 horses with equipments, 21 muskets, and 4 sabers. In addition to this the enemy lost about 15 killed and wounded. On our side First Lieut. B. von Lengercke and 2 men were wounded, and 4 horses killed and 5 wounded.

The particulars of the engagement will accompany the report of the officer in command of the party.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,

*Brigadier-General.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Capt. Adolph Schmidt, Fourteenth New York Cavalry.*

CAMP ASBOTH, BARRANCAS, FLA., April 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the result of a scout made yesterday, pursuant to orders from General Asboth, with 30 men of Company M, Fourteenth New York Volunteer Cavalry.

Leaving Camp Asboth, Barrancas, at 12.30 p. m., and passing the light-house picket, I discovered the tracks of 4 horses on the main

road leading toward Nix's farm, and following up the tracks I received information at Nix's farm that the enemy, from 50 to 60 strong, under command of Major Randolph, of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, all mounted and armed with sabers, pistols, and rifles, had only left that place about ten minutes before. I started at once after them in a sharp trot, and after following their tracks for 2 miles on the Pensacola road, I came up with the rear guard. The enemy, aware of my approach, wheeled in column and formed in line of battle behind a creek. Passing the narrow bridge by twos, I ordered a charge with sabers drawn, and was received with a volley of rifle-balls, which killed 4 of our horses and wounded Sergeant Oscar von Rosenfels and Private Seibold Endres, the latter dangerously. Before they had time to reload, I forced with my command a hand-to-hand combat, which resulted in scattering the enemy. After pursuing them with my whole command, First Lieutenant von Lengercke, approaching Major Randolph within ten steps, was fired upon by him and wounded in the arm. Lieutenant von Lengercke followed the major for 50 yards, when his horse was shot and fell with his rider. The major was pursued by Sergeant Wolfram, Bugler Eisfelder, and myself, but were unable to overtake him, as our horses gave out and we had to return. The enemy was chased by my whole command for nearly 3 miles, and during the fight we took First Lieutenant McClintock and 10 enlisted men, of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, together with 6 horses, 2 additional saddles, 21 muskets, and 4 sabers.

The loss sustained by my command is as follows: First Lieut. Berger von Lengercke, Sergt. Oscar von Rosenfels, and Private Seibold Endres, wounded; 4 horses killed, 5 wounded (2 of which, after throwing their riders, ran away with full equipments), 2 revolvers, Remington pattern, and 1 carbine, Burnside pattern.

I believe the enemy lost, in addition to 1 officer and 10 men taken prisoners, 15 wounded and killed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AD. SCHMIDT,

*Captain Company M, Fourteenth New York Vol. Cav.*

Lieut. E. T. SPRAGUE,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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APRIL 16, 1864.—Destruction of U. S. transport Hunter in Saint John's River, Fla.

*Report of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., April 16, 1864.*

GENERAL: The evacuation of Palatka was completed in the most able manner, and great praise is due to Colonel Barton, commanding, for the admirable arrangements which resulted so favorably. Nothing was abandoned; the magazines, platforms for guns, and abatis were destroyed, and the garrison and all the inhabitants of the town withdrawn without accident of any kind. A large portion of the stores, particularly provisions and ordnance stores, were transferred

to Picolata. I am now removing them to this place under convoy of the gun-boats. I regret to have to report in this communication that the steamer Hunter, on a return trip from Picolata, having on board quartermaster's property, was destroyed by a torpedo near the wreck of the Maple Leaf. The Cosmopolitan and Hunter, convoyed by the gun-boat Norwich, were together at the time of the accident. The gun-boat and the Cosmopolitan both passed over the torpedo safely without perceiving it. The Hunter followed immediately in the wake of the Cosmopolitan, struck it, and sank immediately. One man, a hand of the boat, was drowned. The steward of the boat had his leg broken. No other person injured.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff.*

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**APRIL 26—MAY 6, 1864.—Expedition from Jacksonville to Lake Monroe, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.*

**HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,**

*May 6, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I returned this evening from Lake Monroe via Saint Augustine, having made a successful expedition through the counties on the east side of the Saint John's.

We did not meet the enemy, having reached Saunders' Landing, the point at which they were expected, before they began their embarkation. A lighter, repaired by them and lying at that point, fell into our hands. Between 50 and 100 of the rebel force had crossed at Palatka, and concealed the lighter used for the purpose. They recrossed the evening of the day on which we passed up the river.

Several rebel soldiers at home on furlough were captured by us; among them was young Brock, son of the former owner of the Hattie Brock. We captured also the enemy's 2 sentinels opposite Volusia, and 1 of their sub-beef commissaries, with about 400 head of cattle. The whole number of cattle now on the road to this point will not fall below 1,500. The cotton captured will exceed 100 bales.

At Smyrna we took two schooners, loaded with cotton and ready to run the blockade, the Fannie, of about 7 tons, and the Shell, of about 9. These were taken possession of by Mr. A. G. Browne, the Treasury agent, who proposes to bring them into Saint Augustine or Hilton Head as soon as the winds are favorable.

The best disposition exists toward us among the people. Many of these were hiding in the swamps to escape the conscription, but came to us and welcomed us as deliverers. Some of them accompanied us on the expedition, and to their local knowledge and zeal I am indebted for much of our success in capturing property. The knowledge of the country acquired on this expedition will enable me to act hereafter with decision and promptness in meeting any raid of the rebels upon the eastern shore.



I am persuaded that the whole southern part of Florida, except Bay Port and Tampa Bay, does not contain more than 200 troops, and these are scattered over a large surface of country. It is within our power to appropriate the immense droves of cattle now being collected on the headwaters of the Saint John's for the rebel Army. In the county of Brevard alone there are probably some 15,000 or 20,000 beef-cattle, all of which belong to us if we choose to take them. To do this I shall require no additional force, the enemy in front of Jacksonville being much reduced in number.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM BIRNEY,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MAY 6, 1864.—Affair at Tampa, Fla.**

**REPORTS.**

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Woodbury, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Col. Stark Fellows, Second U. S. Colored Infantry.

**No. 1.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Woodbury, U. S. Army.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS,  
*Key West, Fla., May 12, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the temporary occupation of Tampa on the 6th and 7th instant; the capture of three 24-pounders, which were disabled by knocking off one trunnion from each, and of two iron 6-pounders, which were brought away. Twenty prisoners were brought away, of whom only 6 were soldiers. Of the little ammunition found the greater part was thrown into the water; the remainder was brought off. Ten good horses were sent by land to Fort Myers, in charge of Captain Green and a few picked men. Some old muskets and some other public property, not worth enumerating here, were brought away. The lens of the Egmont Key light could not be found.

The naval (50 men), landing with the army, forces captured a small sloop and about 50 bales of cotton.

There was no fort, no defenses against a land attack; but a single parapet near the water's edge to prevent approach by water. Behind this the guns were placed. The carriages and the log revetments around the guns were burnt.

We expected to find more public property, as Tampa has been a military post since the beginning of the rebellion until quite recently. We also expected to find more soldiers. A party of 30 or 40 soldiers detailed for cow-driving had left the place three days before our arrival. The place was completely surprised on the morning of the 6th.

Eighty men under Capt. H. W. Bowers, assistant adjutant-general, landing 12 miles from the town on the west side of the harbor, took position at daylight on the banks of the Hillsborough River to prevent escape by water. About 200 men, under Col. S. Fellows, landing 3 miles from the place on the south side of the harbor, advanced

rapidly and formed a line stretching from the Hillsborough to the head of an indentation in the bay, thus preventing an escape by land. The appearance of Tampa is desolate in the extreme. There were very few men in the place, hardly one able-bodied man between eighteen and fifty years of age. Most of the prisoners belonged to the captured sloop as crew and passengers. Many letters taken from a captured mail confirm the reports of Captain Crane that the rebels have abandoned cattle-driving south of Pease Creek. The troops engaged in this expedition were three companies of the Second Colored Regiment, under Col. S. Fellows, and two companies of the Second Florida Cavalry, under Captain Crane.

Admiral Bailey placed the gun-boat Honduras at my command and issued a general order to all masters of navy vessels in his squadron to assist our military operations in every practicable way.

My orders against pilfering were very stringent. The colored troops on shore behaved remarkably well. The refugee troops having personal wrongs to redress were not so easily controlled.

Colonel Fellows captured in the post-office about \$6,000 of Confederate and State money, which will be sent to Washington in accordance with a recent order.

Respectfully,

D. P. WOODBURY,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Col. Stark Fellows, Second U. S. Colored Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND U. S. COLORED TROOPS,  
*Fort Taylor, Key West, Fla., May 10, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of operations in the expedition to Tampa, Fla. The particulars of the embarkation from Key West, the delay at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee River and Tampa Bay, as well as the landing of Company E, Second U. S. Colored Troops, with guides, under Captain Bowers, I will omit, as they were under the immediate supervision of Brigadier-General Woodbury:

After the party assigned for the west bank of the Hillsborough River had been landed at Gadsden's Point the small boats (nine in number) were filled with the Second Florida Cavalry, about 140, the Second U. S. Colored Troops, 35 in number, and about 30 seamen under Acting Naval Master Fales, of the bark J. L. Davis. This force was designed to operate by way of the neck of land between Hillsborough River and the marsh, so as to enter Tampa from the north. A landing was effected at the head of a small bay near Point Deshow, about 3 miles from the city, at daylight Friday, May 6, 1864. Captain Green, Second Florida Cavalry, was immediately sent forward with a party to arrest all persons whom he could find for the purpose of gaining information. Lieutenant McCullough soon followed with the advance guard, and at the proper distance came the main body. Captain Fales, of the Davis, and the seamen under him joined the land forces. When within a mile of the city, a colored man was secured by Captain Green, who gave information that the place was not occupied in any force by the enemy, though

about 20 had left the day before under the command of the post [commander], McKay. When the party arrived at the neck of land between the river on the west and the marsh on the east, pickets were posted to intercept all who might attempt to escape or to enter the town. Captain Crane, Second Florida Cavalry, with a small party, proceeded to the hotel and arrested some of the leading citizens, while the main body double-quickened to the battery at the mouth of the river. The surprise was too complete to allow any opposition to be made. A few who were near the river attempted to escape to the other side; 1 was shot dead, and 2 or 3 wounded, when those who had not escaped surrendered. The party which had landed at Gadsden's Point was now seen on the west bank of the river. It was judged best not to communicate with them before entering the town, as no opposition was expected, and we should lose time by so doing. That party now joined the main force at the old U. S. barracks.

Making our position secure from surprise by pickets of the Second Florida Cavalry, attention was turned to the public property in Tampa. The naval party under Captain Fales captured a sloop loaded with cotton, and also cotton on shore sufficient to make in all about 50 bales. The Confederate mail was secured and forwarded to General Woodbury. During Friday night a small party was sent to the west bank of the river to prevent a surprise from that quarter. Saturday the battery, consisting of three 24-pounders mounted on barbette carriages, and two field pieces, 6-pounders, were destroyed. The heavy guns were disabled, and the 6-pounders were brought away with us. The magazine and earth-works were destroyed by burning the timber revetments. The greater part of the ammunition and projectiles was thrown into the water, as well as some old muskets. A part of the property belonging to the light-house at Egmont Key was found and brought away. About \$6,000 in Confederate money was secured, which I have forwarded to General Woodbury. The prisoners taken numbered 39, but 20 of them were released, for various reasons. Having secured all the property, it was decided to embark again Saturday p. m. One company of the Second U. S. Colored Troops was accordingly sent on board the gun-boat Honduras about noon. The remainder were delayed to wait for the return of the boats from the Honduras. As the leading ones entered the river and I was about to embark the remainder of the troops, a report came from the pickets that the enemy was collecting about 5 miles away to make a dash into Tampa. To provide for such a course the prisoners were put into the first boats and ordered to drop down the river to a proper distance from land. As the other boats came up they were loaded. Just as the last ones arrived a flag of truce came in, ostensibly to receive permission to take away the wife of McKay, the rebel commander. The picket returned in good order at the signal of firing a musket, and all were soon on board the boats. Some difficulty was found in navigating the channel, as it was quite dark before we left the river. We arrived on board the Honduras in Tampa Bay about 9 p. m., Saturday, May 7, 1864.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. FELLOWS,

*Colonel Second U. S. Colored Troops.*

Capt. H. W. BOWERS, *A. A. G.*



**MAY 9, 1864.—Destruction of the U. S. transport Harriet A. Weed in Saint John's River, Fla.**

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South.

No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the South.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., May 12, 1864.*

I regret having to report the loss of the armed transport Harriet A. Weed, sunk by the explosion of a torpedo on the 9th instant in the Saint John's River, Fla., near the mouth of Cedar Creek, 12 miles below Jacksonville. Five citizens, employés, were drowned. That part of the river was, when I left Florida, patrolled by the U. S. war steamer Mahaska.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson, C. S. Army.\**

DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Near Jacksonville, May 9, 1864. (Via Columbus, 10th.)*

Another of the enemy's steamers was blown into fragments this morning by a torpedo on the Saint John's, a short distance below Jacksonville. She had two guns aboard and was towing a schooner. The latter escaped. Not known how many lost. This is the third steamer which has met this fate in the Saint John's within the last forty days.

PATTON ANDERSON,  
*Major-General.*

Major-General JONES.

**MAY 11, 1864.—Reconnaissance to Daufuskie Island, S. C.**

*Report of Col. William W. H. Davis, One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., May 11, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report, for the information of the brigadier-general commanding the department:

I left Hilton Head this morning on the armed transport Croton, accompanied by the Thomas Foulks and Plato, with 200 men from

\* See also report of Major-General Jones, p. 117.

the Fifty-second and One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under command of Lieut. Col. T. D. Hart, of the One hundred and fourth, to make a reconnaissance to Daufuskie Island. From Seabrook I sent the Foulks and Plato in advance, to steam around the island to prevent what forces the enemy might have upon it from leaving. I landed my forces at a wharf which the enemy had partially destroyed, and leaving a sufficient number of men to protect the boat in case of attack, I sent the rest to skirmish through the island. Learning that there was some cotton on a plantation on the north part of the island, I proceeded there with a small party and succeeded in collecting 90 bags, weighing about 4,000 pounds, which I brought away and caused to be turned over to the proper authorities at this place. None of the enemy were found upon the island, but Colonel Hart was informed by some colored people living on one of the plantations that a party of 6 armed rebels were there last night. The only inhabitants were 3 black women and 1 man, all very aged, who remain on their late master's plantation, and who are reported as being almost destitute of food. I do not believe the enemy has at any time a greater force than a few pickets for observation. The Plato got aground late in the afternoon, where she was forced to lie until flood-tide. A detachment of 40 men was put on board to protect her in case she should be attacked by the enemy's boats.

I am under obligations to Captain Lane, late Government agent in this department, for information which led to my finding the cotton.

I remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. H. DAVIS,

*Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Comdg. Post.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MAY 19-27, 1864.—Operations on Saint John's River, Fla., including affairs (19th) at Welaka and Saunders and capture (23d) of U. S. steamer Columbine.

#### REPORTS.\*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army.

No. 3.—Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry.

#### No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., May 27, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have to report that on the night of the 20th instant I received from Colonel Noble, commanding forces east of the Saint

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\*For reports of Commander George B. Balch, Lieut. Commander Samuel L. Breese, and Acting Ensign Francis W. Sanborn, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

John's River, information that a body of about 15 men and 1 officer had been captured by the enemy, who had crossed the river and surprised their post.

On the morning of the 21st, I sent to Colonel Noble a communication, in which I ordered him to withdraw his guards from the river opposite Volusia and Saunders.

On the night of the 21st, I received another communication from Colonel Noble, stating that a force smaller in number than that at Welaka had been captured, and that the enemy, reported to be 400 strong, was said to be pushing northward on the east side of the river. I received the last communication at about 11 at night. In an hour I started for the nearest point to that threatened. I carried with me in the steamer *Charles Houghton* 200 men from this garrison. At my request Captain Balch ordered two gun-boats—the *Ottawa* and the little steam-tug *Columbine*—to accompany me. At Picolata I added to my force six companies of Colonel Beecher's regiment, and all the available force of the One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Regiment, numbering in all about 650 or 700 men. I was obliged to use the naval boats as well as the *Houghton* to transport the troops.

On Sunday, the 22d instant, I arrived at the landing opposite Palatka. My movements had been slightly delayed by time expended at Picolata in filling sand-bags, no cotton or hay bales, save one of the latter, being available, to render the little tug *Columbine* less vulnerable. I designed running the tug up the river to Volusia to protect that position if threatened, which I could not doubt from the report of Colonel Noble.

Although my march was lengthened by disembarking opposite Palatka, I did not deem it prudent to convey troops farther up the Saint John's. The *Ottawa* was to continue to the mouth of Dunn's Creek to afford all possible protection to the *Columbine*. The *Columbine* was ordered to proceed immediately to Volusia, and afford all possible assistance to the force at Volusia. The *Houghton* was to await further orders, meanwhile keeping near the *Ottawa* for her protection. I directed my march toward the road from Saint Augustine to the crossing of the Haw Creek, thence to Volusia.

I had sent on the evening of the 21st a dispatch to Colonel Noble, saying that I should move for this position, and directing him to push forward to the same point, and beyond, if practicable, all his available infantry and cavalry.

I have thus stated all the movements ordered and commenced from Saturday night at 12 o'clock until Sunday at 4 p. m. Before the *Columbine* started I placed on board of her, at the request of Commander Breese, of the *Ottawa*, a guard of 25 men and 2 officers, of Colonel Beecher's regiment. I informed her commander that I should press forward with my troops in the direction in which she was going; that I would afford him all assistance as soon as I could reach him; that I should not consider the discharge of his artillery as an indication that he was in danger. This was assented to by the commander of the *Columbine*, who said he would throw up a rocket if he required assistance. My march was prolonged into night. I accomplished about 9 miles, and encamped on the north side of Haw Creek, which I found impassable without boats. I heard a great deal of firing from artillery in the direction of the mouth of Dunn's Creek, but saw no rocket and had no dispatches. I presumed the firing to be the ordinary shelling of the woods by the gun-boats.



I pressed forward on Monday morning, making that day about 30 miles, and I encamped at night at the crossing of Haw Creek. I found that Colonel Noble had pushed his infantry 4 miles farther, and that his cavalry was at Volusia. The garrison at Volusia was safe; no rebels were found this side of the river. The two small posts at Welaka and Saunders had been captured, or rather shamefully surrendered, I was told, not a gun having been fired in defense. I have ordered full reports to be made, which I will transmit when received. I found the country people much excited, and quite confident that the enemy, 700 strong, were at the crossing of Haw Creek. Indeed, from reports I had reason to believe there was some truth in the rumor.

On Tuesday morning, the 23d [24th], I directed Colonel Noble to send his cavalry down the country to drive in herds of beef-cattle, which it was well known were going north to feed rebel armies. I also directed him to tell the Columbine to go down the river; that I had now no further use for her. The infantry I ordered to concentrate at camp 9 miles south of Saint Augustine, at that place, and at Picolata. The 200 men of the One hundred and forty-fourth were ordered to return to Jacksonville. My reasons for this disposition, and my views of the only mode of operating with infantry in this country of immense distances and illimitable pine deserts, I have given to the commanding general in a private letter.

Having accomplished all I could, I did not deem it advisable to attempt to pursue the enemy across the river, and, being totally unprepared to do it if I had thought it advisable (having neither boats, rations, nor transportation), I made my way back to the landing at Picolata to take the steamer Houghton to Jacksonville. I reached the river on Tuesday, the 23d [24th], at about 4 p. m. A dispatch from the Ottawa at the mouth of Dunn's Creek gave me the first information that the enemy had opened with artillery on Sunday night on the Houghton and on the gun-boat. The Houghton was struck three times with 12-pounder solid shot, once amidship and once near her walking-beam, but no great harm was done. I proceeded to Orange Mills, and there found this vessel.

This morning a report from Colonel Noble informed me of the loss of the tug Columbine, and the capture of most of those on board. Colonel Noble writes me that some (he does not say how many) of the Thirty-fifth (colored) had made their way to Haw Creek, and had given this information. They say that on Monday night, the 23d, opposite Horse Landing, the Columbine was assailed as she was coming down the river, that she was disabled by the enemy's artillery, and captured by 200 men. It was on Tuesday, the 24th, at 4 p. m., that I communicated with the Ottawa, then lying at the mouth of Dunn's Creek, and within 5 miles of Horse Landing. The Ottawa had been here since Sunday, and yet she knew nothing of the report.

This morning my cavalry captured a prisoner who says that Dickson (rebel) reports that he has "captured a little boat and two small guns," and that he "has burned the boat." It seems, therefore, that the firing on Sunday night was by the enemy's artillery. This fact was not communicated to me until Tuesday afternoon, too late to do anything for the Columbine, if indeed anything could have been done for her.

I deem it fortunate that I did not attempt to run farther up the river than Picolata with my troops.

I will submit further facts in relation to the loss of the Columbine and the capture of the two posts at Welaka and Saunders as soon as received.

While regretting the losses and condemning whatever there may have been reprehensible in the conduct of the commanders at Welaka and Saunders, I feel keenly the disaster to the Columbine and her gallant crew, resulting as it did from an attempt to relieve my command.

My reconnaissance of the 25th has developed the fact that there is no enemy at Camp Finegan. I captured a prisoner this morning, who confirms the fact.

The enemy's force in Florida is as follows: At Camp Milton, of the Second Florida Cavalry, Colonel McCormick, effective men, 600; artillery, two small pieces. Camp Milton and McGirt's Creek strongly fortified. At Baldwin, no troops, strong fortifications, two pieces of artillery. At the trestle bridge across the Saint Mary's fortifications are being erected by negroes. Of State troops raised for State defense, three companies are expected daily at Camp Milton; 2,000 in all are looked for. Captain Dickison's cavalry (200 effective men) is stationed at Palatka. Dunham's artillery of light pieces is on the Saint John's River near Welaka, Saunders, and Horse Landing.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
GEO. H. GORDON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army.*

CHARLESTON, May 27, 1864.

On the night of the 19th instant, Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry, crossed the upper Saint John's with a detachment of 50 men; captured 56 of the enemy's pickets, with their arms and accouterments, including 2 commissioned officers. On the 23d instant, the same officer, after engagement near Palatka, Fla., captured the steamer Columbine, carrying two heavy Dahlgren guns, killed 20, captured 65 of the enemy, and 65 stand of arms. Among the prisoners are 8 commissioned officers. The boat was burned to prevent recapture by the gun-boat Ottawa, close by.

Yesterday the enemy made demonstrations along the Ashepoo and South Edisto Rivers, and came up the Ashepoo with a few gun-boats and transports carrying cavalry, but was met at Chapman's Fort by a part of General Robertson's command, under Captain Earle, who forced them to retire with the loss of one transport, riddled by artillery and burned.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

## No. 3.

*Report of Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS,  
Camp Call, East Fla., May 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the evening of the 23d instant, while the steamer Columbine was on her downward trip, I engaged her at Horse Landing with a section of Milton Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Bates, and 20 picked riflemen from my cavalry force. After the second fire from our battery she became disabled. We continued to pour canister and solid shot, while our sharpshooters kept a constant and well-directed fire until she became unable to manage her guns. Our battery shot with much precision, nearly every shot taking effect, riddling her very badly and carrying away her rudder. She consequently became unmanageable and grounded. Her colors were shot away and her white flag was hoisted. The engagement lasted about forty-five minutes.

We captured in this engagement 7 commissioned officers and 1 claiming to be a non-combatant, 9 seamen, and 47 enlisted negroes; number killed and drowned about 25. Of the negro troops Captain Daniels and 5 negroes were wounded, 3 of which are mortal. Among the killed was a lieutenant of the naval service.

After the surrender several of the men jumped overboard and swam for the opposite shore, but most of them were drowned. The deck presented a horrible scene, the dead and wounded lay weltering in blood. Most of the negro troops have owners in North Carolina and Florida. I regret my perilous situation compelled me to fire the boat, as the gun-boat Ottawa was only a few miles below the scene of action. It is strange to say that she did not come to the rescue. The two Dahlgren guns and machinery of the boat can be saved from the wreck as soon as proper transportation can be obtained.

I am thankful to Divine Providence that no one was hurt on our side. The Ottawa still remains in the river.

The conduct of Lieutenant Bates and my entire command deserves my highest commendation for their gallantry and determination to gain the victory.

The following property was also captured:

Rifles.....	42
Cartridge-boxes.....	28
Rounds of ammunition.....	2,000
Bayonets.....	35
Swords.....	5
Pistols.....	8
Cutlases.....	4
Nautical compasses.....	2
Chests bomb-fuses.....	2
Spy-glasses (these glasses are now used by my pickets on the river posts).....	2
Stand of colors.....	3
Boats.....	2

I would respectfully ask that one of the swords be presented to Lieutenant Bates for his gallant conduct.

Respectfully submitted.

J. J. DICKISON,  
Captain, Commanding Forces.

Capt. W. G. BARTH,  
A. A. G., Hdqrs. Dist. of Florida, Lake City.



[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Lake City, Fla., May 27, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the major-general commanding the department.

I have directed the captured property to be turned over to the proper staff officers, except the two swords which Captain Dickison and Lieutenant Bates have been allowed to retain as evidences of the high appreciation of their gallantry which I entertain.

PATTON ANDERSON,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

A D D E N D A.

GENERAL ORDERS, )      HDQRS. MIL. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
 No. 25.                    {      *Lake City, May 24, 1864.*

The major-general commanding has great pleasure in announcing to the troops under his command the result of a gallant expedition against the enemy's detached posts, undertaken by Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry, on the Saint John's River.

Crossing the Saint John's River in small boats, with a force of 54 men, Captain Dickison surprised and captured the enemy's detachments at Welaka and Fort Gates, taking in all 56 prisoners, including 2 commissioned officers, with 8 horses, and the arms and equipments of the entire force. Captain Dickison and his brave men then returned safely to their camp, bringing in the whole of their captures, after an absence of forty-four hours, during which they traveled 85 miles and effected the result detailed without the loss of a man. Such an exploit attests more emphatically the soldierly qualities of the gallant men and skillful leader who achieved it than any commendations it would be possible to give them. The major-general commanding feels, however, that his thanks are due to them, and while thus publicly tendering the tribute so justly due indulges the confident hope that every officer and soldier in his district will emulate the patriotic endurance and daring displayed by Captain Dickison's command.

By order of Major-General Anderson :

WM. G. BARTH,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**MAY 25, 1864.—Affair at Jackson's Bridge, near Pensacola, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, May 25, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I crossed early this morning, with 30 men of Captain Schmidt's company (M), Fourteenth New York Cavalry, the Bayou Grand at its mouth (the gun-boat point), to feel the enemy, and after advancing about 2 miles on the Pensacola road, came upon a rebel cavalry picket at Jackson's Bridge, capturing 4 of their horses, with saddles, 3 muskets, and 1 saber.

After searching the swamps in vain for the dispersed rebels, we took a circuitous return around the head of the bayou near the Perdido, and ascertained that Colonel Maury has again returned with

his regiment (the Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry) to the Fifteen-Mile Station (Gonzales' farm). The captured property was turned over, in accordance with inclosed order, to Captain Hanna, district quartermaster, and Capt. Thomas Bondren, acting ordnance officer, respectively.

Contract Surgeon Newhall, just in from East Pass, reports 20 more Florida recruits on their way down the Santa Rosa Sound. These will fill the sixth company of the First Regiment Florida Cavalry, and yet I have neither arms nor horses for these men, who most anxiously desire to be led against the rebels and avenge the many wrongs inflicted upon them and their families by a barbarous foe, as their inclosed petition,\* just received, fully explains.

Very respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. JOHN LEVERING,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**MAY 25, 1864.—Skirmish near Camp Finegan, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., May 26, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that yesterday I sent, under command of Colonel Shaw, a small detachment of infantry, about 300 colored and 100 white, two sections of artillery, and some mounted infantry, in the direction of Baldwin. The detachment met but few of the enemy until they crossed Cedar Creek and reached the vicinity of Camp Finegan. Here they were opposed by infantry and a few cavalry. Colonel Shaw thinks there might have been 400 or 500 in front of him. Our advance was within less than half a mile of Camp Finegan. I had directed the movement simply to ascertain the presence of an enemy in my front. I think they are weak, and are established at Camp Milton. A brisk fire of infantry and artillery was maintained for a brief period. The rebels were advancing, but the fire checked them. I had just left the front.

The steamer Saint Mary's was within my lines. I can take possession of her at any time when the navy are ready to operate.

I should gain nothing by extending my lines westward at the cost of a fight. I shall move continually when it can be done with little loss. I have not men enough to spare any without more gain than Florida pines. I am of opinion that the Georgia cavalry is not here. My lines are so long on the east of the Saint John's that all movements require long rests.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. GORDON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District of Florida.*  
Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,  
*Commanding Department of the South.*

P. S.—The rebels had no artillery.

GEO. H. GORDON,  
*Brigadier-General, &c.*

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\* Not found.

**MAY 26, 1864.—Destruction of U. S. transport Boston at Chapman's Fort, Ashepoo River, S. C.**

*Report of Lieut. Col. John D. Twiggs, First South Carolina Cavalry.\**

HDQRS. ASHEPOO AND COMBAHEE SUB-DISTRICT,  
*Chisolmville, May 27, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that about 1 o'clock the morning of the 24th instant I received from Lieut. Isaiah J. Fox, Company I, First Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, who was just going on a scout, the information that one large steamer had passed Chapman's Fort. Shortly afterward he dispatched me that two more steamers, supposed to be Federal gun-boats, were coming up the Ashepoo River. I immediately ordered Lieut. W. J. Leak, commanding detachment First South Carolina Cavalry, to re-enforce the pickets between Chapman's Fort and Chehaw River. Holding his reserve midway, I ordered the first section of Capt. W. E. Earle's light battery to take position at Chapman's Fort, and the second at Mr. William Means' causeway, on the Ashepoo road. Captain Bridges I ordered to take his lightest gun to the same place. Captain Mathewes was supported by a detachment of cavalry and ready for action.

When I arrived at Chapman's Fort I found a large Yankee steamer aground 300 yards below the piling in the Ashepoo River, lying with her bow on to the breast-works, and in such a position that my left gun commanded her starboard side and my right her port bow, and also allowed a raking fire fore and aft. The third shot fired from the artillery struck her steam-chest, causing the steam to escape rapidly. Captain Earle fired 200 shots and struck her repeatedly. As soon as the artillery commenced firing I ordered a portion of the First South Carolina Cavalry dismounted, and advanced them as sharpshooters to the edge of the marsh, ordering them to fire upon the steamer; but after a few rounds, finding that it caused no diminution of the number on her decks, I caused the firing to cease.

The enemy did not reply to Captain Earle's fire until he had fired 20 shots. His fire was not returned by the vessel aground, but by another Yankee vessel 2 miles off. The fire was kept up by first section of Earle's light battery and the farthest Yankee steamer until 8.30 a. m., when two more steamers made their appearance, and after a very short period two more came up, making five in all. The four steamers afloat then commenced shelling from Chapman's Fort to Chehaw River.

At 10 a. m., I ordered Captain Earle to cease firing, his ammunition becoming very short. The boats which came up last had a great many men on their deck, and fearing an infantry flank movement I told them to retain a few shell, grape, and canister. During the cessation of Captain Earle's battery the enemy shelled furiously, making two trips to the steamer aground; took off her crew and troops. Finding her very disabled, they set her on fire and retired down the river. The pickets on duty at Chapman's Fort report the steamer that ran over the piling and past Chapman's Fort to have thrown three flashes of a white light while crossing the piles. They also report that she had a large number of horses on board. The

\* See also Foster's report, p. 8.



steamer that was burnt was boarded by a detachment from my command, and a number of burnt horses found on board.

Great praise is due to Captain Earle, Lieutenant Furman, and the men of Earle's light battery for the admirable manner in which they handled their guns. My thanks are due to Capt. R. H. Barnwell and Mr. W. Mikell, of the engineer corps, for their kind and valuable assistance on that occasion, and to Brevet Second Lieut. Isaiah J. Fox, Company I, and Private J. M. Schnierle, Company I, and Sergeant Jolly, Company F, First South Carolina Cavalry, for their efficient services and the gallant manner in which they acted. The officers and men of the First South Carolina Cavalry, who have met the enemy before on so many battle-fields in Virginia, were eager again to show on their native soil the daring spirit of the old Hampton brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. TWIGGS,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. P. HAXALL,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**MAY 31-JUNE 3, 1864.**—Expedition from Jacksonville and capture (June 2) of Camp Milton, Fla.

REPORTS.\*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.

No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., June 4, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to present to the major-general commanding the following report of operations for the surprise and capture of the enemy's forces within my district at Camp Milton, and the destruction of his intrenched camp:

The line of intrenchments, crossing the Jacksonville and Tallahassee Railroad at a point about 12 miles from Jacksonville, runs in a northerly and southerly direction a distance of about 3 miles. The approach to the intrenchments is covered by McGirt's Creek. This stream runs southeasterly. The intrenchments are about 300 yards from the creek. The approaches to the work on its front are practicable by two roads, the railroad and a dirt road nearly 2 miles farther north. North of the railroad the creek turns westerly, making it difficult to turn the work in that direction without a long detour. South of the railroad the works may be turned by one or two roads crossing the creek at either of two fords, respectively,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the railroad. By information from scouts and

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\*See also Foster's report, p. 9.

prisoners I learned that the former of these roads was obstructed and well fortified, both for artillery and infantry. The latter was open. I determined to use it to turn the position.

I concentrated my force by night at Jacksonville. Troops were brought down the river from Picolata, to which place a portion of them had marched from Saint Augustine. I directed one column to effect a landing at the intersection of Cedar Creek and McGirt's Creek, at a point about 10 miles from the mouth of the latter creek; to move rapidly at night, gain the crossing of McGirt's Creek; thence turning northerly, move along the creek and gain the rear of the enemy's line of intrenchments. I directed another column to move out at the same time from Jacksonville, proceed upon the dirt road that runs south of the railroad, and threaten the intrenched line in front. The first column numbered about 1,400 men, the second about 1,059.

The first was commanded by Colonel Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, and consisted of the following regiments: The One hundred and fifty-seventh New York, 135 officers and men; the Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, 504 officers and men; the Third U. S. Colored Troops, 275 officers and men; the Seventeenth Connecticut, 135 officers and men; the One hundred and seventh Ohio, 338 officers and men.

The second column, under Colonel Shaw, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, consisted of the Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, 716 officers and men; the One hundred and forty-fourth New York, 343 officers and men; the Seventy-fifth Ohio (mounted), 120 officers and men; the Third Rhode Island Artillery (six pieces), 120 officers and men.

Colonel Noble effected a landing at 3 a. m., on the morning of the 1st of June, without opposition. Colonel Shaw moved about the same time to the front from Jacksonville. The front and rear of the enemy's works were gained by the two columns about the same time, but too late to capture the enemy. Evidences of his hasty flight were apparent in burning trestle-work upon the railroad and in abandoned stores and forage. I found the line of fortifications one of great strength, capable of offering a successful resistance to a very large force.

The breast-works were made of huge logs firmly fastened and covered with earth. The log part was 6 feet wide at the bottom and 3 at the top. They were proof against field artillery. The stockades were composed of timber from 12 to 16 inches thick, with loop-holes 2 feet apart. Their base was protected by earth thrown up from a ditch which ran along the whole line of works. There was a salient or re-entering angle at about every 150 yards. Two batteries in the rear completely commanded the railroad, and in addition to being very strong were most elaborately finished, having a sharpness of outline almost equal to masonry. This line extended about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, when a new line began. Across the dirt road north of the railroad the works were of the same class as those described, except that the stockades had platforms and embrasures for field pieces. The works at that point were most solidly constructed and beautifully finished.

In conformity with my order these works were fired and completely demolished. The labor of many thousands of men for many weeks was thus destroyed, and one of the most formidable barriers to the march of an army to Tallahassee removed. The column that moved

to the rear was strong enough to hold its own against any probable force it would meet. It moved with its right resting on the creek, and gradually opened easy communication with the column moving from Jacksonville. So successfully was the rear of the enemy's position gained that not an attempt to defend it was made.

The accompanying sketch\* will show the position of the line of works, the railroad, the creek, and the line of movement of the two columns.

The object of the movement having been accomplished, I ordered, on the morning of the 2d June, a return to Jacksonville. As the troops were about forming the enemy appeared in their front and opened a skirmishing fire with some show of numbers. Several reports from the front represented the enemy in strong force, and attempting to cut off my retreat by turning my position and gaining the defile at Cedar Creek. Although I believed the force and intention of the enemy to have been exaggerated and misunderstood, I did not feel that it would be prudent to totally disbelieve it and even allow a chance for the enemy to occupy a defile upon my line of communication with Jacksonville, which place was defended by less than 400 men. For this reason, and because I had accomplished my purpose, I returned to Jacksonville without other offensive operations than driving the enemy's skirmishers from my front whenever he opposed me.

I have to commend the action of the troops. It was praiseworthy in the highest degree. Colonels Noble and Shaw led their columns with rapidity and executed my plans with promptness. I am indebted to Commanders Balch and Lewis, of the navy, for assistance in landing my troops at night within the lines of the enemy.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. GORDON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson, C. S. Army.*

LAKE CITY, FLA., June 3, 1864.

Enemy, with about eight regiments of infantry, six pieces of artillery, and a battalion of cavalry, advanced from Jacksonville toward Baldwin on night of 31st May. On morning of 1st instant (June), drove our cavalry from Cedar Creek and McGirt's Creek back upon Baldwin. On morning of 2d, all our cavalry was advanced, met advanced guard of the enemy between Baldwin and McGirt's Creek, drove him back to Jacksonville. Our lines are as they were before the movements. It was probably a reconnaissance by the enemy. Our loss trifling.

PATTON ANDERSON,  
*Major-General.*

General SAMUEL JONES.

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\* Not found.



**JUNE 3, 1864.—Capture of U. S. gun-boat Water Witch in Ossabaw Sound, Ga.**

*Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army.\**

CHARLESTON, *June 4, 1864.*

(Received 2 a. m., 5th.)

Night before last the U. S. gun-boat Water Witch, of four guns, was captured after a sharp fight in Ossabaw Sound by a naval party organized by Commodore Hunter. Anderson telegraphs me that on the night of the 31st May the enemy, with about eight regiments of infantry, six pieces of artillery, and a battalion of cavalry, advanced from Jacksonville, Fla., toward Baldwin, and the next morning drove our cavalry back on Baldwin. On the morning of 2d instant, our cavalry advance met the enemy's advance guard and drove him back to Jacksonville. Our loss slight. Our lines as they were before the movement. So far the recent attempts of the enemy in this department have been successfully met and frustrated, but if renewed with vigor, as they probably will, I need more troops. Can any depleted regiments be sent to me? No part of South Carolina Reserves yet reported for duty. Governor Brown can give me no aid, as his State troops are at General Johnston's disposal.

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER.

[Indorsements.]

Respectfully submitted to His Excellency the President.

JNO. WITHERS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

JUNE 5, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

The reserves of Georgia are not under the control of Governor Brown nor to be confounded with State troops. What is the cause of failure to furnish reserves from South Carolina? General Cobb, of Georgia, and General Chesnut, of South Carolina, should give you all needful information in relation to the reserves of those States.

JEFF. DAVIS.

**JUNE 25, 1864.—Operations on Yellow River, Fla.**

*Report of Capt. W. B. Amos, Company I, Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry.*

MILTON, *June 27, 1864.*

DEAR COLONEL: I left here on Saturday morning with two small boats and 15 men for the mouth of Yellow River. When I arrived there I discovered a small schooner lying about 2 miles below with her sails down. I landed my men and made my way to her, and

\* For reports of U. S. naval commanders see Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

succeeded in capturing her and crew. In a few minutes I discovered another small sail coming up the bay. I secreted myself and men until she came up, and succeeded in getting her and crew. I then sent my boats and prisoners up to camp, and took the small schooner and balance of my men and sailed down to East Bay, where I was informed that there was a schooner by the name of Osceola anchored out about 4 miles from shore with 5 men and some small-arms. So I concealed my men in the boat and sailed for her, and managed to get on her after dark and succeeded in boarding her. I ordered the crew to surrender. Three made to their guns. I ordered my men to fire on them, which they did, and killed the 3. The remainder (2) surrendered. I divided my men on the two schooners and set sails for camp, and arrived here yesterday morning, and I send up the prisoners to-day, and it will be late before they get there, as they have to foot it up. One of the men (W. Leonard) can give you all the information that you may desire about the yard, and if you will let me, after the excitement dies off I will burn the mills on the island. I will come up on July 1 or 2 and see you, as there is some other important business that I want to see you about, &c. Will make my report to your acting assistant adjutant-general of the prisoners and where they belong, &c. My respects to Dr. Tillman and Lieutenant Hallett.

Your friend, in haste,

W. B. AMOS,

*Captain, Commanding Outpost.*

Col. H. MAURY,

*Comdg. East Div., Dist. of the Gulf, Pollard, Ala.*

### JULY 1-31, 1864.—Operations on the west coast of Florida.

#### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. Henry W. Bowers, Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Key West.

No. 2.—Maj. Edmund C. Weeks, Second Florida (Union) Cavalry, of skirmish near Station No. 4, near Cedar Keys, Fla.

#### No. 1.

*Report of Capt. Henry W. Bowers, Assistant Adjutant-General,  
District of Key West.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS,  
*Key West, Fla., August 6, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the result of several expeditions undertaken by the Second Florida Cavalry, assisted by some companies of the Second U. S. Colored Troops, on the west coast of Florida, during the past month:

On the 1st ultimo, an expedition, consisting of 120 men of the Second Florida Cavalry and 120 men of the Second U. S. Colored Troops, total 240, the whole under the command of Capt. J. W. Childs, Second U. S. Colored Troops, embarked from Fort Myers, Fla., for Bay Port, on the west coast. On landing, the enemy's pickets were discovered and skirmishing commenced. Our troops followed the enemy into the interior to Brooksville, a distance of 40 miles, occasionally skirmishing with them. Seven prisoners and 15 horses were captured, and 13 contrabands brought in. The planta-

tions of Captain Hope, Captain Leslie and sons, and Captain Hooker, all commanding guerrilla parties of the enemy, were destroyed. Our loss was 1 man slightly wounded. At Bay Port 60 bales of cotton were captured; of this the navy 7 bales; the remainder was accidentally burnt. It was designed to bring off the whole of it. The troops returned to Fort Myers in safety.

About the 20th ultimo, an expedition, composed of 400 troops from the Second Florida Cavalry and Second U. S. Colored Troops, under the command of Major Weeks, Second Florida Cavalry, made a descent from Cedar Keys, Fla., upon Saint Andrew's Bay. On landing, 100 bales of cotton were captured near the coast and burnt. The expedition marched 44 miles into the interior, burnt 80 bales of cotton, 2 large bridges, 1 large grist-mill, 1 camp with store-houses, &c., complete, capable of containing 500 men. On the return to the coast the expedition brought in 115 contrabands, 8 mules, and 2 horses. The troops returned after an absence of nine days without the loss of a man.

On returning from Saint Andrew's, another expedition, under command of Major Weeks, Second Florida Cavalry, started from Cedar Keys for the purpose of capturing cotton on the Florida Railroad to Otter Creek, about 25 miles from Cedar Keys. Here 140 bales of cotton were captured. Proceeding about 6 miles farther, Major Weeks destroyed the railroad bridge over the Waccassassee River and bent the rails for a distance of one-fourth of a mile. The enemy cannot now bring down troops by railroad within 30 miles of the post at Cedar Keys. Major Weeks also discovered 150 bags of unginned cotton. This, with the 140 bales previously mentioned, he expects to secure for the benefit of Government.

Recapitulation of the results of the three expeditions: Seven prisoners, 17 horses, 8 mules, captured; 233 bales of cotton burnt, 7 bales of cotton secured by the navy, 140 bales of cotton secured by the army, 150 bags of cotton secured by the army; 3 plantations, destroyed (rebel); 1 camp with store-houses, &c., 1 large Government mill, 2 bridges, 1 railroad bridge, one-fourth of a mile of railroad track destroyed; 128 contrabands brought in. This without the loss of a single man.

I have drawn up this report by General Woodbury's direction, who is himself too unwell to write.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BOWERS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 2.

*Reports of Maj. Edmund C. Weeks, Second Florida (Union) Cavalry, of skirmish near Station No. 4, near Cedar Keys, Fla.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Cedar Keys, July 8, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the commanding general:

Learning that there was a force concentrating at Station 4, I thought it best to try and discover in what force, and what their designs might be.



On the morning of the 6th instant, I took out 200 men, and advanced 3 miles beyond Station 4, found the enemy, skirmished with him until I discovered he had a large force, and then fell back to the bayou. The men behaved very well; marched back in good order. I remained at the bayou six hours, it being high water so that I could not cross. They assaulted us three times with about twice our number, and were handsomely whipped each time. When the water fell, succeeded in crossing the bayou and returning to Day Key. Loss, 8 men wounded, 2 dangerously; no loss of arms.

Lieutenant Pease and men behaved well. I am much pleased with the conduct of my regiment.

The rebel force consisted of four companies of infantry, one company cavalry, and some home guards. Their loss was at least double our own.

Will write particulars by first opportunity.

Respectfully,

EDMUND C. WEEKS,

*Major Second Florida Cavalry, Comdg.*

Capt. MARCELLUS BAILEY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Cedar Keys, July 9, 1864.*

GENERAL: My letter to you was necessarily brief for want of time. I will now explain my object in advancing up the railroad. I had been informed by quite a number of professed Union men that there was not a soldier this side of Baldwin, and that 200 men could go through the entire State.

Tuesday quite an intelligent negro came in from a place called Sodom, near Otter Creek. He reported four companies of infantry at Chambers' plantation (8 miles above Station 4), and a company of cavalry half way between the two places, and that the cars had commenced running down as far as Chambers'. From him I also learned that there were 74 bales of cotton at Otter Creek. I deemed it advisable to take all the force I could spare from here and push out as far as Chambers', and if I found that there was a force, discover its strength, and, if possible, its designs. If I did not meet with a force, I intended to have pushed on to Otter Creek, and to have captured the cotton, to have sent it down the river, and then to have returned.

Lieutenant Pease led the advance with 50 men of his company, and had pushed on to about 3 miles beyond Station 4, where he came upon a cavalry picket. They discovered him first and immediately sounded the alarm. I was some distance in the rear. Learning that he had met the enemy I sent him word to place his men in as good a position as possible, and to hold the enemy in check until I could come up. When I arrived he was falling back, being nearly surrounded. I threw my men behind the bank of the railroad, placing him on the right; the rebels dismounted and pushed up pretty sharply. I tried to restrain my men from firing till the enemy would come within short range, but through the eagerness of the negroes to engage them, the firing commenced before I gave the order. That rather alarmed them, and

they fell back. I took advantage of this circumstance to fall back beyond a point where I knew the force of infantry from Chambers' could get into our rear. We fell back without haste and in good order; halted once ten minutes for the men to rest, and after placing my men in good position on the railroad, or rather behind the bank of it, ordered them to eat their dinners, thinking they would have about time to eat before the enemy would be down. I should have crossed the bayou immediately had it not been high water and therefore impassable. The men had scarcely finished their dinners when a force of infantry of about 150 on the left of the road, and about the same number on the right, were discovered advancing through the brush. I kept my men down, and when they were within short musket range I opened fire. They stood two rounds and then left. They tried this three times, my men behaving all the time with the utmost coolness. The third time they gained possession of a small portion of the railroad, on the left of Company E, Second U. S. Colored Infantry. I ordered the negroes to charge, which they did in fine style, led by Sergt. William Wilson, who behaved very bravely. The enemy broke and scattered in every direction and did not attempt to face us again. When the water had fallen enough to allow of crossing I made a feint of pushing up the railroad, and in that way succeeded in bringing more than half of my force across before the movement was discovered. It was then too late for them to do us much damage, though they wounded 3 men.

I think their intention was to have attacked this place. I know they have boats building on the Suwannee River. They can be placed upon cars and put into the water at Station 4 in six or eight hours. I do not apprehend any danger from them now. I am throwing up rifle-pits as fast as I can, and in a few days shall consider this place safe against any force that they may be able to bring, and also know that in any operations on this portion of the coast it will be necessary to move in pretty strong force. We have some 30 or 40 able-bodied negroes here. Shall I enlist them, and for what regiment?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDMUND C. WEEKS,

*Major Second Florida Cavalry, Commanding Forces.*

General D. P. WOODBURY,

*Commanding Dist. of Key West and Tortugas.*

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#### JULY 3, 1864.—Skirmish near White Point, S. C.

*Report of Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Army.\**

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, July 13, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the force under my command on the 3d instant:

Having disembarked on the evening of the 2d, we bivouacked about a mile from White Point, near the Dawho River. At 5.15 a.

m., we began our march. We had gone about half a mile when our scouts were fired upon by the rebel skirmishers. Our skirmishers advanced steadily, supported by the column, and drove before them the small rebel force for about 3 miles, when it passed over a creek, taking up the bridge behind it. A rebel battery opened immediately. Knowing they would shell the main road, I moved my command to the right and continued my advance under cover of the woods. The road we had left was shelled with great precision. Our skirmishers advanced to the creek and a sharp fire was kept up for some time between them and the rebel sharpshooters. As our men had been cautioned to keep to cover, and the distance was too great for ordinary rifles, they suffered little. The rebels, being in large numbers about their guns and showing themselves on the earth-works, suffered more. I reconnoitered the creek and swamp on both sides of the bridge and found them impassable. The swamp was miry and deep, and swept by the guns of a rebel fort near the Dawho, and also by the guns of the battery and earth-works. The creek was a salt-water one, deep, and bordered by a miry marsh on each side. The narrowest water I could find, except at the bridge, was about 37 yards, running between marshy borders, each about 50 yards wide. The place where the bridge had been was narrower, but was swept by both a raking and flanking fire of the enemy's cannon. A rough diagram\* will show the situation.

Our two small howitzers dropped several shell into the rebel fort, and the gun-boats from the Dawho, although most of their shell fell short, dropped two shells into the fort among the gunners.

Our casualties were very few, and altogether from sharpshooters. Two men were wounded in the Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, and 4 in the Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops. The reports giving the names were left among the papers in the hands of Colonel Montgomery. None of the wounds are serious.

Men and officers all seemed disposed to do their duty. The affair was an excellent drill for them preparatory to real fighting.

The troops under my command were : Thirty marines serving the two light howitzers ; 525 men of the Seventh U. S. Colored Troops ; 370 men of the Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops ; 241 men of the Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops ; 35 men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers ; total, 1,201, besides Captain Edwards' company of engineers.

In the absence of the artillery necessary to protect my crossing and the means to build a bridge, I ended the reconnaissance and withdrew leisurely.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM BIRNEY,

*Brigadier-General, Comdg. District of Florida.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

No mention is made of the boat furnished for crossing, or his report to me on the morning of the 3d, when asking leave to withdraw, and of my order not to withdraw until night.

J. G. FOSTER.

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\* Omitted as unimportant.



JULY 15-20, 1864.—Expedition from Jacksonville and skirmish (15th) at Trout Creek, Fla.

# REPORTS.\*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.

No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

No. 3.—Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick, Second Florida Cavalry.

## No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
Jacksonville, Fla., July 20, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on Friday last I landed a force at the mouth of Trout Creek and advanced to its source. My advance guard, under Captain Hart, Third U. S. Colored Troops, skirmished with a company of the enemy's cavalry for about 10 miles, inflicting upon them some loss. One of the enemy fell into our hands, but wounded so dangerously that we could not remove him. We captured the horses and equipments of 4 rebel cavalymen. The casualties on our side were 1 man killed, Thomas Frister, Company I, Third U. S. Colored Troops, and 1 wounded, Sergt. John P. Weatherbee, Company D, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.

After destroying the bridges over the south branch of Trout Creek, I sent one squad of cavalry due west toward the Saint Mary's and another to Callahan, in Nassau County, on the railroad. The second squad, under Major Fox, captured and destroyed two cars loaded with railroad iron; destroyed the telegraph office fixtures and apparatus. Some 20 horses and mules were taken; some 200 small-arms of different kinds, about 2,000 cartridges, and several large jars of powder. The cavalry, having no means of transportation, were obliged to destroy the powder, cartridges, and small-arms. About a dozen negroes came off with us.

This advance covered the operations of a party sent up the Nassau River to Holmes' Mill, for the purpose of taking it down and bringing it away. The mill is one of the first ever erected in Florida, containing gang, rotary, and circular saw machinery, and worth now probably \$50,000 when in operation. It is apparently complete except the gang-saws and belting. A part of the machinery has been loaded on the Alice Price, and is now on its way to this place. The rest will be brought by the Sylph as soon as her boiler is repaired and she is in running order. When this mill is in full operation it will turn out from 40,000 to 50,000 feet of lumber daily. I propose having it erected at once on the former site of the Empire Mills, about 2 miles below Jacksonville, on the east side of the Saint John's.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BIRNEY,

*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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\* See also Foster's report, p. 19.

## No. 2.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.*

CHARLESTON, July 28, 1864.

The enemy, about 3,000 strong, have occupied Baldwin, Fla., and burned the railroad bridge over Saint Mary's. Our troops at Baldwin reported to have escaped into Georgia. The general commanding in Florida calls on me for re-enforcements. I cannot send any without serious danger to this place and Savannah. Can I get re-enforcements from any quarter?

SAM. JONES,  
*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick, Second Florida Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT No. 2,  
*Camp Jackson, Fla., August 3, 1864.*

CAPTAIN : In reply to your communication of the 22d ultimo, calling for a "full and accurate report of everything connected with the late raid of the enemy in the direction of Callahan," &c., I have the honor to submit the following :

On July 13, scouts from Tucknett's Point reported that six vessels had arrived at Jacksonville the day before, but owing to the distance they could not ascertain whether they were loaded or not. At daylight on the same day the enemy advanced upon our pickets on Cedar Creek, at the railroad, but made no further demonstration in that direction. A scout from Broward's Neck reported that Turner and Houston (scouts), of Second Florida Cavalry, had been captured by the Tysons (tories). We afterward found they had been brutally murdered.

On the 14th, it was ascertained that quite a force of cavalry had landed in Broward's Neck and advanced as far as Neill Turner's. The exact number was not known. Lieutenant Cone, who was then at Higginbotham's with a detachment of 25 men, and who was promptly advised of their advance, also reported them to be in considerable force. He remained at Higginbotham's watching their movements until early next morning (the 15th), when Captain McElvey, of the Fifth Florida Cavalry Battalion, joined him with 30 additional men. Captain McElvey now moved down to Turner's to ascertain their strength and movements. He found about 40 of their cavalry, who retreated rapidly before him. He pursued them until he learned that a body of infantry had landed up Trout Creek and was marching to his rear. He then fell back to Hall's Branch, and skirmished with them until he was flanked by the infantry. He withdrew then to Little Trout Creek and again engaged them. Here he was again flanked. He then fell back to Big Trout Creek (at Higginbotham's), and here he skirmished with them until he was almost surrounded.

He retired then down the road leading off direct to Baldwin, covering all the approaches with his pickets. The enemy now rested at Higginbotham's and put out infantry pickets, while Captain McElvey camped near Mrs. Green's, on the Baldwin road. The enemy now being in the rear of our pickets on the line of Cedar Creek, Maj. G. W. Scott, who commanded at Camp Milton, called them in and withdrew with his whole command to the junction of the roads leading from Higginbotham's and Camp Milton to Baldwin, about 2 miles from Baldwin.

During the skirmishing referred to the enemy were re-enforced with 80 cavalry and with two pieces of artillery. The infantry force was composed entirely of negroes and was not less than 600. Their entire cavalry force was about 125. The information as to their numbers was derived partly from citizens, but principally from our own officers. Captains McElvey and Gwynn and Lieutenant Cone had an opportunity of seeing their column pass through the roads and had an open and distinct view of it. Mr. Higginbotham had them around his house and conversed with General Birney, who commanded in person. He gives the same account of their forces. Other citizens estimated their infantry at 1,000. The position they held at Higginbotham's, across Big Trout Creek, was a very strong one, and rendered more so by their destruction of the bridge and felling timber. The above estimate of their force is supported by the facts that it was known that they had recently re-enforced at Jacksonville, and that the Charles Houghton and Mary Benton had taken a load of troops down the river early that morning without making any change in the number of tents at Jacksonville, which left it to be inferred that the expedition was to be a short one.

Our left at Camp Milton being now turned, it was deemed best to concentrate our small force around Baldwin for its defense, leaving Captain McElvey with 55 men near Higginbotham's to watch their movements.

On the morning of the 16th, 50 mounted men were sent down under Captain Gwynn to relieve Captain McElvey's command, which had been without forage and rations for more than twenty-four hours. Acting under instructions from Major Scott, Captains McElvey and Gwynn (before the former withdrew his command) made a joint reconnaissance for the purpose of attacking the enemy should they find he was not too strongly posted. They soon ascertained that it was impossible to dislodge him, even with our whole force. The enemy, however, showed no signs of advancing during the day, but held their position firmly.

On the morning of the 17th, Captain Simmons, Second Florida Cavalry, was sent down with 50 men to relieve Captain Gwynn's command. During the day, while our cavalry was confronting them at this point, their cavalry, under Major Fox, dashed up the north end of King's road (which they now controlled) to Callahan and burnt two flat-cars loaded with railroad iron, and Mr. Jones' house, and took off his horses. On this raid they arrested Joseph Hagans and Washington Broward (citizens), and carried off Mr. Geiger's negroes, and burnt the house of Joel Wingate (a scout). They also took the horses of Elijah Higginbotham. About 100 negro troops accompanied this raiding party as far as Thomas' Swamp. These were in addition to the 600 at Higginbotham's. Reliable citizens whom they visited on the route to Callahan state that they had 125



cavalry and 100 infantry (negroes). All the damage done on this raid was accomplished in one day, the distance being very short from the line of the road to Broward's Neck to Callahan.

On the night of this day (the 17th), Captain Dunham arrived at Baldwin with 84 effective men. I also received instructions from you to attack the enemy next morning at daybreak with my whole force, if I did not consider them too strong, and if so, to send for Rou's command and act on the defensive. I was satisfied they were too strong for me, and especially in the position they occupied. I accordingly telegraphed for Rou's command, and determined to attack the enemy as soon as it arrived. Two trestles about 12 miles from Baldwin having been burned during that night, the train from Gainesville could not come through, and the companies of reserves did not reach me till 9 a. m. next day (the 18th).

Meanwhile I had sent Major Scott with his entire effective cavalry (about 180 in the saddle) to feel the strength of the enemy, and to ascertain if there had been any change in his position. He found upon arriving at Higginbotham's that the enemy had retired in the direction of Yellow Bluff. He was delayed some time in crossing Trout Creek. The bridge being burned he was compelled to cross at a ford much higher up. He did not come up with the enemy, they having taken to their boats. He reports that from the appearance of their camps their force must have been larger than had been reported. He sent out scouts, who informed him that the raiding party had also withdrawn toward Yellow Bluff. Major Scott then returned with his command, and on the 19th reoccupied Camp Milton and re-established his vedettes on the line of Cedar Creek.

There was nothing lost at Camp Milton or Baldwin, either in quartermaster, commissary, or ordnance stores.

I deem it due to Captains McElvey and Gwynn and Lieutenant Cone, who were sent to watch the enemy (to check them if possible), to say that I consider their statements entirely reliable. They are cool, intelligent, and discreet officers, and gentlemen of unquestioned veracity.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

A. H. McCORMICK,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. W. G. BARTH,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**JULY 21-25, 1864.**—Expedition from Barrancas, Fla., toward Pollard, Ala., and skirmishes (22d) at Camp Gonzales, Fla., and (23d) near Pollard, Ala.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*In the Field, Gonzales' Farm, July 22, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit that having left Barrancas yesterday afternoon I attacked, after a march of 30 miles, at daybreak this morning the enemy at Camp Gonzales, on the Pensacola railroad, 15 miles above Pensacola.

There were at Camp Gonzales three companies Seventh Alabama Regiment Cavalry, G, E, and I, in command of Colonel Hodgson,

comprising, according to captured pay-rolls, over 120 men each. They completed only day before yesterday a new fort named Fort Hodgson, considered by them to be very strong, and they were decided to defend it at all hazards, but submitted to the vigorous dash made by a portion of the Seventh Vermont Veteran Volunteers, the Eighty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, the First Florida Cavalry (not mounted), and Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, and the well-aimed shells of the First Florida Battery, and after half an hour's fighting deserted the new fort and the camp, leaving in our hands their regimental flag and all their official papers, 8 prisoners (among whom a lieutenant), a considerable amount of commissary and quartermaster stores, 17 horses with equipments, 18 sabers, 18 guns, a large quantity of ammunition, and 23 head of cattle. It is reported that the rebels carried with them on their horses over 30 of their wounded, leaving only 1 in the camp mortally wounded.

The horses and arms I turned over to the Florida cavalry, and will send the beef to Barrancas, but having no transportation I will destroy all the rest of supplies by fire, including Fort Hodgson and all the buildings in the camp.

From inclosed statement of H. L. Knox, private, Company G, Seventh Alabama Cavalry, captured this day, the commanding general will see that General Sherman's detached force, expected to reach Pensacola, had three successful engagements with the rebel General Clanton and some militia troops at Talladega, Loachapoka, and Chehaw and destroyed the Montgomery and West Point Railroad, but returned to Sherman's main army without entering Montgomery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Capt. OLIVER MATTHEWS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

Statement of H. L. Knox, private in Company G, Seventh Alabama Cavalry, acting hospital attendant, captured at the Fifteen-Mile House on the 22d day of July, 1864, with the fortified rebel camp:

Brigadier-General Clanton engaged the Federal forces on the 16th instant at Talladega, on Blue Mountain, with two regiments of cavalry and other additional force, and after two days' fighting he was defeated, losing 500 men. The same Federal force engaged on the 19th instant militia troops at Loachapoka and Chehaw, on the railroad, 20 miles from Montgomery, defeating them with heavy loss, and destroying the Montgomery and West Point Railroad, and returned to Sherman's main army without entering Montgomery. Pollard is at present garrisoned by one regiment of infantry and one of artillery.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*In the Field, at the Fork of Pollard and  
Perdido Station Road, July 23, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I beg to submit, in connection with my report dated at Fifteen-Mile House (Gonzales' farm), 22d instant, No. 635, that, fol-

lowing up my success of yesterday, I advanced this morning farther toward Pollard. After marching 6 miles I had, at the forking of the Pollard and Perdido Railroad Station road, a small cavalry engagement between part of Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Karber, and part of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, in which we captured 3 prisoners, with their arms and horses, losing 1 horse killed on our side.

The prisoners taken stated that to check my advance on the Pollard road, the rebels destroyed at the telegraph station, 2 miles in my advance, the Pine Barren bridge, on both sides of which impassable swamps are extending. They also confirmed the report that Sherman's detached cavalry force has returned to the main army. In consideration of this statement, I ordered Captain Schmidt, [Fourteenth] New York Cavalry, to demonstrate with his company on the Pollard road toward the Pine Barren bridge, while I myself, with infantry and artillery, took the Perdido Station road, with the view of cutting the telegraph line and striking the railroad, and after destroying the trestle-work at and below Perdido Station, over 300 yards long, descend between Perdido River and Mobile Bay, and capture the rebel camps (Withers and Powell), and recrossing the Perdido at Nuenec's Ferry, return to Barrancas.

I dispatched orders accordingly to Captain Hanna, district quartermaster, to hold in readiness transportation on the 26th instant at Nuenec's Ferry; but after advancing 7 miles on the Perdido Station road, I received from three different reliable sources positive information that all available forces from Mobile were sent up the railroad to check my progress, and that Colonel Maury, with his regiment (the Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry), had already arrived with an additional mounted force, in all 1,300 strong, and a light battery of six pieces, having at the same time four pieces at Pine Barren bridge, with all of the militia called out along the whole line and at Pollard. Meanwhile mounted rebels were lurking all the way in our front and right flank, watching our movements. At this juncture, deprived of the prospect of meeting Sherman's detached force and my own small force (consisting only of infantry, 50 mounted men, and two pieces of artillery drawn by mule teams), I deemed it proper to be satisfied with the results already achieved and return to this place (Swan's place), the forking of the two roads above alluded to, where I have encamped for the night, and will return to-morrow to the gun-boat point, at the mouth of the Bayou Grand, and from there to the camps at Barrancas.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Capt. OLIVER MATTHEWS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, July 25, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I beg to submit, in connection with my report dated at the fork of Pollard and Perdido Station road, July 23, 1864, that, arriving at the gun-boat point on the evening of the 24th, I crossed the bayou this morning and returned to Barrancas, after marching with the infantry 72 miles without the loss of a man.



The inclosed letter of my assistant adjutant-general, written on the 23d instant, but received only on my arrival at the gun-boat point yesterday evening, confirms the information given in my last report. With the next steamer I will have the honor to submit a detailed report of the expedition.

Very respectfully, captain, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. OLIVER MATTHEWS,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

BARRANCAS, FLA., *July 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General ASBOTH:

GENERAL: A refugee just came in from Fifteen-Mile Station and says Maury was telegraphed at Mobile, from telegraph station 5 miles above the Fifteen-Mile Station, to go there at once and engage you. He says the dispatch was sent yesterday morning, and that Maury has 1,300 strong, including a light battery of six guns. Excepting the battery Maury's force consists of cavalry. The refugee informs us that you surprised the Seventh Alabama at Fifteen-Mile Station and captured their horses, &c. Nothing new of importance here. No arrivals from New Orleans. All quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. T. BUELL,

*Lieutenant, &c.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,

*Barrancas, July 30, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit in the following my report of an expedition which left this post on July 21, in the afternoon, and returned on the morning of the 25th:

Having received on the 20th instant, by the steamer Clyde, a communication from headquarters Military Division of the West Mississippi, of 17th instant, with the extract of General Sherman's dispatch requiring me to look out for a lightly equipped force of his army which may be compelled to descend to Pensacola about the 20th or 25th of July, I started the following day, the 21st, in the afternoon, with four companies of the Seventh Vermont Veteran Volunteers, the Eighty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, and six companies of the Eighty-sixth Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry, under command of Col. W. C. Holbrook, Seventh Vermont Veteran Volunteers, and four companies of the First Florida Cavalry (not mounted), one section of the First Florida Battery, and Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, under command of Col. E. von Kielmansegge, First Florida Cavalry, the whole under my personal command, numbering 1,100 men. (See inclosed Special Orders, No. 167.) The infantry crossed the Bayou Grand in scows at Bragg's Bridge, while the artillery and the train, guarded by the cavalry, went around the head of the bayou, joining the infantry before dark at Jackson's Bridge, 2 miles beyond the bayou. After a short halt the united column moved forward, leaving Pensacola on the right, and arrived, after a continuous night march of 15 miles, at daybreak of the 22d, at the rebel pickets near Gonzales', a permanent rebel camp at the

Fifteen-Mile House, on the Pensacola railroad. The rebel pickets opened a brisk fire upon our skirmishers, but were promptly drawn in and a regular attack organized. To the right of the railroad in front of the enemy's camp, the Seventh Vermont and the Eighty-second U. S. Colored Infantry were formed in line of battle, with four companies as skirmishers, and the Eighty-sixth Colored Infantry as reserve; the Florida Battery on the road at the crest of the hill, with Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, and the First Florida Cavalry east of the railroad forming the left flank, in support of the battery, with two companies deployed as skirmishers. After repeated skirmishes the retreating enemy made a determined stand 1 mile from his camp, but, steadily pressed by our skirmishers, were compelled to take refuge in Fort Hodgson, a new fort completed only the day before. The rebels seemed quite safe behind their breast-work, and opened a vigorous fire upon us, but had to submit after a short contest to the dash of our infantry and the well-aimed shells of the First Florida Battery. They deserted fort and camp, our troops charging after them and driving the enemy 3 miles, till they disappeared entirely.

The fort was defended by three companies of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, Colonel Hodgson commanding, according to the captured muster-rolls over 360 strong. They left in our hands 1 lieutenant and 6 men as prisoners, a large red battle-flag with thirteen stars, all their official papers, a considerable amount of commissary and quartermaster stores, 17 horses with equipments, 18 sabers, 23 guns, a large quantity of ammunition, and 23 head of cattle.

The neighboring farmers reported that the rebels took with them on horses over 30 of their wounded when retreating toward Pollard. One forty-days' substitute, found near the fort mortally wounded, was properly dressed and left for care at the nearest farm-house. We had only 1 man, of the Eighty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, wounded, the ball entering his right arm.

Returning from the pursuit, the command was camped on the Gonzales rebel camp-ground, fresh beef issued, and proper rest given to the men.

From the rebel prisoners I learned that General Sherman's detached cavalry force, for which I had to look out, had three successful engagements with the rebels at Talladega, on the Tennessee and Alabama River Railroad, and at Loachapoka and Chehaw, on the West Point and Montgomery Railroad, 30 miles from Montgomery, and destroying effectually the Montgomery and West Point Railroad from the tank above Chehaw to Opelika (about 24 miles), and burning the depot and tax-in-kind houses at Loachapoka, Auburn, and Opelika, returned to the main army via La Fayette, without proceeding down to Montgomery.

Although thus disappointed in my hope to co-operate with General Sherman's detached cavalry, I concluded to advance farther toward Pollard. Accordingly the next morning, the 23d, at day-break, one wagon with captured ordnance and the few sick and wounded was sent back to Barrancas under proper guard; Fort Hodgson leveled, and all its heavy square timber, with the numerous buildings of the camp containing the commissary and quartermaster stores, destroyed by fire, and the march resumed at 8 a. m. After advancing 6 miles rebel pickets were reported again on the right front, at the fork of the Pollard and Perdido Railroad Station road.

A portion of Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, having been ordered forward in charge of Lieutenant Karber, a small cavalry engagement ensued, in which we captured 1 sergeant and 2 privates of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, with their arms and horses, losing on our side 1 horse killed. Those additional prisoners stated that to check my advance on the Pollard road the rebels destroyed at the telegraph station, 2 miles in my front, the Pine Barren bridge, taking position with four pieces of artillery on the opposite side of the bridge, on both sides of which impassable swamps are extending. They also confirmed above report that Sherman's detached cavalry force had returned to his main army.

In consideration of those statements I ordered Captain Schmidt, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, to demonstrate with his company on the Pollard road toward the Pine Barren bridge, while with infantry and artillery I took the Perdido Station road, with a view of cutting the telegraph and striking the railroad, destroy the trestle-work at and below Perdido Station (400 yards long), descend between Perdido River and Mobile Bay, break up the Bonsecours Bay Salt-Works and the rebel camps (Withers and Powell), and, recrossing the Perdido at Nuenese's Ferry, return to Barrancas. I dispatched orders accordingly to Captain Hanna, district quartermaster, to hold in readiness transportation on the 26th at Nuenese's Ferry; but after advancing 7 miles in heavy rain to Levin's farm, I received from three reliable sources positive information that all the available rebel force had been sent from Mobile up the railroad to intercept my command, and that Col. H. Maury with his regiment, the Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry, had already arrived with an additional mounted force, in all 1,300 strong, and a light battery of six pieces, with all of the militia called out along the whole railroad line and at Pollard.

At this juncture, there being no more prospect of meeting Sherman's raiders, and seeing my own small infantry force closely watched in front and right with a superior cavalry force before me, I deemed it proper to return and be contented at present with the success already achieved.

For the night I encamped accordingly at the forking of the roads above alluded to, and returned the following day to the gun-boat point at the mouth of the Bayou Grand. On the morning of the 25th, I forded the mouth of the bayou and arrived at Barrancas safely, after marching with the infantry in less than four days 72 miles without losing a man.

Inclosed please find Special Orders, Nos. 170, 172, and 175, naming the prisoners and specifying the captured property brought in;\* also Sub-A, letter † of my assistant adjutant-general, written on the 23d, confirming in part the information received at Levin's farm; and Sub-B, statement of Sergeant Ray, that after leaving Fifteen-Mile Station on my return on the 24th instant, Colonel Maury arrived with a force of 2,000 men, comprising infantry, cavalry, and artillery, but receiving orders to return immediately to Mobile to assist in preventing the landing of Yankee troops, returned accordingly with his regiment (the Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry), leaving at the Fifteen-Mile Station but three companies of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry and some infantry.

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\* No statement of property found. The other orders omitted as unimportant.

† See p. 416.



In conclusion, I beg to state that all officers and men of the expedition deserve the highest praise. Although unaccustomed to forced marches, they stood the fatigue well, inspired as they were with the fervent desire to meet the rebels; and all those who had the chance advanced and fought most gallantly.

Very respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

JULY 28, 1864.

Sergeant Ray, First Florida Cavalry, returned from Perdido Mills, 6 miles from Gonzales, says:

Colonel Maury came down to Fifteen-Mile Station from Pollard last Monday, with 2,000 men, 500 of which were mounted, and four pieces of artillery. Maury did not stay at the Fifteen-Mile Station more than twenty-four hours. While there he received orders to return immediately to Mobile, as the Yankees are landing at Pascagoula. One of his companies was coming from Mobile by another route (Blakely route). Men were sent to turn them back to Mobile.

There are three companies of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry left at Fifteen-Mile Station.

Mrs. Murry saw Colonel Maury and his command going back toward Pine Barren bridge. The men told her that they were going back to Mobile. First Lieut. W. P. Rice, Company D, Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry, told her the same. The picket at gun-boat point said they saw 5 horsemen after we crossed the bayou. I saw no track of the presence of the enemy in this vicinity.

Jessie Ray, William Parker, and Allen Holman, privates First Florida Cavalry, confirm the above statement.

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JULY 23-28, 1864.—Union raid from Jacksonville upon Baldwin, Fla., and skirmishes.

#### REPORTS.\*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick, Second Florida Cavalry.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, July 27, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the suggestions made June 15 by the major-general commanding have been successfully carried out by the troops under my command.

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\*See also Foster's report, p. 19.

The trestle-works on the Cedar Keys and Lake City railroads have been burned beyond Baldwin, and the enemy has been forced to evacuate the strongly intrenched and stockaded positions of Baldwin and Camp Milton. Two locomotives and trains are cut off and must fall into our hands unless destroyed by the rebels. The rail transportation of blockade-run goods from the southern ports of Florida is broken up for the present, and the abundant supply of corn and cattle from the southern and middle counties of Florida, for the rebel armies, is within our control. The movement was a flank one. To get to the rear of the enemy our troops, after making a feint in Nassau County, on the north, ascended the Saint John's 25 miles to Black Creek, and this creek 4 miles to an obscure landing concealed by woods. Owing to deficiency of transportation it took three nights to land my small force.

We were not discovered until Sunday [July 24], when our advance began to cross the South Fork of Black Creek. This stream is from 10 to 16 feet deep. The bridge was a frail and floating one, made mostly of fence rails. While crossing our advance was attacked by the enemy's cavalry, acting as dismounted skirmishers. Colonel Beecher, Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, drove them off, and Captain Morton, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, pursued them. Three of our men were wounded in this skirmish, 1 seriously.

At 1 o'clock Monday morning all our troops were in bivouac at Whitesville. At 5, the column was on the march on the Clay Hill road toward Trail Ridge. Five miles off the rebels, commanded, it is said, by Major Scott, were posted at a defile. They were quietly driven out by the colored skirmishers. Colonel Harris, Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry, was ordered to charge them with 50 men. This he did in gallant style, cutting down a cavalryman with his saber. The rebels fled, leaving 2 dead on the ground, 1 mortally wounded, and a number scattered through the swamps.

The North Branch of Black Creek was so much swollen by the recent heavy rains as to make it almost impassable. It was about 100 yards across, and deep enough for 30 yards to swim all except the tallest horses. After making a bridge for the infantry, and passing over by hand the ammunition, &c., the artillery, caissons, and wagon train were passed through.

During the crossing the Seventy-fifth Ohio was sent forward to destroy the two small trestles near Trail Ridge. This was done. The great trestle-work on the Lake City railroad over the South Fork of the Saint Mary's had been burnt at 6 a. m. by Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan, of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers, with 100 mounted men of his own regiment and of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry. To effect this Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan had made a night march of over 30 miles, making the circuit of one of the enemy's camps, fording several deep streams, and capturing the trestle guard with its officer.

From Trail Ridge we pushed on by the Alachua trail to Darby's, still on the Lake City railroad, 5 miles in the rear of Baldwin. The mounted force arrived and destroyed a long trestle; the infantry bivouacked some 4 miles in the rear. It was after midnight when the work at the railroad ceased. The day's work had been enormous.

During the night and at early dawn the rebels evacuated Baldwin and Camp Milton, passing northwestward over Brandy Creek and the Saint Mary's, and throwing away property in their rapid flight. They left us a quantity of forage, some muskets, a wagon-load of

sabers, four or five small flags, numerous testaments, and a great variety of miscellaneous property, including one good army wagon. Their forces were the Second Florida Cavalry, Scott's battalion of six companies, four companies of reserve infantry, Villepigue's battery, and Dunham's battery. Some of the prisoners state there were in addition three small pieces of cannon, making fifteen in all. Their force was superior to mine, and mine were nearly all colored men, a fact which mortified our prisoners greatly. These colored troops were burning with desire to avenge Olustee.

Colonel Harris and Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan, both of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers, distinguished themselves by gallantry and zeal. Nor can I pass in silence the important services of Colonel Beecher, Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Colonel Shaw, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, Major Mayer, commanding Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, and Col. William H. Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers.

Our casualties were 5 slightly wounded, and 1 seriously. We captured 19 prisoners, who will be held, I trust, for exchange for colored soldiers only.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

WM. BIRNEY,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

. Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick, Second Florida Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT No. 2,  
*Camp Jackson, Fla., August 15, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the evacuation of Camp Milton and Baldwin and the operations of the troops of this command in relation thereto:

On July 23, Maj. G. W. Scott, commanding outpost, reported that five transports loaded with troops had gone up the Saint John's River and were supposed to be landing them at the mouth of Black Creek. I immediately ordered him to send a scout in that direction to ascertain their strength and movements, which was promptly done. We soon learned, however, from other sources that a large body of the enemy were in the neighborhood of Middleburg, and were probably making their way to Starke or Trail Ridge, on the Florida Railroad. Major Scott was then directed to move with his whole cavalry force, leaving his pickets on the line of Cedar Creek and a guard at Camp Milton, to meet the enemy and check his progress. Accordingly, on the night of the 23d, Major Scott with 98 men moved down near Middleburg, and on the next day (24th) met and repulsed from 300 to 500 of their infantry, driving them across Black Creek. He then fell back about 5 miles to a creek in his rear, for the purpose of obtaining a more advantageous position and of guarding other approaches, and there camped for the night.

Early next morning he was preparing to move against them again when their infantry attacked his pickets. He sent forward skir-



mishers and drew them on, while he withdrew his main force to the west side of the creek to make a stand there. The enemy's cavalry dashed upon our skirmishers so suddenly and rapidly that they succeeded in capturing 1 man and driving the rest back. He learned upon crossing the creek referred to that a body of cavalry (about 80 in number) had passed around to his rear during the night by a road he was not advised of, and were making their way to Baldwin or some point on the Florida Railroad, and fearing, from the exposed condition of Baldwin, that they would capture it, he moved his command with the utmost dispatch to that place. It was soon ascertained, though, that they had crossed the Florida Railroad at Trail Ridge, and, tearing up about 30 feet of the track, had passed in the direction of the Saint Mary's trestle.

We soon received information that they had burned the trestle and captured Lieutenant Packard and 4 men of the guard on duty at that place. I had already ordered Captain McElvey, of the Fifth Florida Cavalry Battalion, who was left in command at Camp Milton, to withdraw his pickets from Cedar Creek and fall back to Baldwin. Had also dispatched a train for Captain Spencer's company of reserves and the working party on the Florida Railroad, engaged in taking up the iron near Callahan.

I now determined to defend Baldwin, notwithstanding communication with Lake City was broken, for, though our supplies were only for twenty-four hours, we had possession of an engine and train, and provisions could have been transported to us from the Saint Mary's trestle if carried to the trestle on this side. At that time I supposed that the force in our rear was not more than 80 men, and that they had probably retired after burning the trestle. Meanwhile Captain Cone and Lieutenant Reddick, in command of separate detachments, had been sent to the rear for the purpose of getting fuller information. They left about 3 p. m. After night it was discovered that two other trestles between the Saint Mary's and Baldwin were also on fire, and soon the guard at those points reported that the enemy had fired them. It was then apparent that the force had not retired from our rear, and also that our source of supplies was effectually destroyed, even should we succeed in driving them back.

Up to 2 a. m. on Tuesday, the 26th, I could hear nothing from Captain Cone or Lieutenant Reddick, which led to the belief that they were either captured or cut off by a larger force than at first reported, which latter proved to be true. My force at Baldwin consisted of 216 cavalry, under Major Scott; Captain Spencer's company of reserves (about 40 for duty), and Captain Villepigue's battery of four guns. At the hour referred to last I called a council of officers, and we determined to evacuate Baldwin and move by way of Brandy Branch and Lang's Ferry, on the Big Saint Mary's, to this position, on the west side of the south prong of that river.

The whole command moved from Baldwin at 3 a. m. on 26th, and crossed Brandy Branch about 6 a. m. Here our pickets reported that the enemy's cavalry were in pursuit. The command was immediately put in position to receive them, and soon about 100 cavalry made their appearance; but after 5 or 6 shots from Captain Villepigue's battery and a few rounds from our skirmishers they retired. We then crossed the Saint Mary's at Lang's Ferry, and on Thursday, the 28th, the command arrived and took position at this place.

I have since learned from citizens that on Monday night (25th) three regiments of negroes, one of whites, one of cavalry, and four pieces of artillery reached Darby's Still, on the railroad, 6 miles west of Baldwin.

I have to report the following loss in prisoners: Lieut. D. M. Packard, Second Florida Cavalry, and 3 men on guard at Saint Mary's trestle; Assistant Surgeon Wilson and Sergeant Carrol, Captain Villepigue's company, and Private Pendarvis, Company K, Second Florida Cavalry (taken while attempting to go into Baldwin after its evacuation); Sergeant Denham, Fifth Cavalry Battalion, and 2 men, on scout in direction of Trail Ridge; Private J. E. Purdom, Company B, Second Florida Cavalry, on a scout; Private Roche, Company G, Second Florida Cavalry, wounded and captured in action at Black Creek—making a loss of 2 officers and 10 men.

I inclose reports\* which show all the losses in quartermaster, commissary, ordnance, or other public stores.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. McCORMICK,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. W. G. BARTH,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

#### AUGUST 2-4, 1864.—Naval expedition to McIntosh County, Ga.

##### REPORTS.†

No. 1.—Lieut. Col. Arthur Hood, Twenty-ninth Battalion Georgia Cavalry.

No. 2.—Capt. F. J. Browning, Twenty-ninth Battalion Georgia Cavalry.

##### No. 1.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Arthur Hood, Twenty-ninth Battalion Georgia Cavalry.*

STATION NO. 3, ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD,  
*August 6, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I beg leave to inclose herewith report of Captain Browning, Company C, whom I sent after the enemy who landed in McIntosh, and who succeeded in capturing some 23 of the citizens of that county. I would respectfully suggest that the mail facilities for that portion of the county be curtailed, and that no one but known loyal citizens be permitted to receive from the post-office newspapers. I think it important also that all persons known to be disloyal immediately on the coast, and all negroes, be removed. The means of communication are too rapid and certain with the blockading fleet.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HOOD,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. J. HUNTER,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

\* Not found.

† For report of Commander George M. Colvocoresses, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

## No. 2.

*Report of Capt. F. J. Browning, Twenty-ninth Battalion Georgia Cavalry.*

STATION NO. 3, ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD,  
August 5, 1864.

ADJUTANT: I have the honor to report that on the 3d instant, under orders from Lieut. Col. A. Hood, I started with a detachment of 60 men in pursuit of the enemy, said to be in the neighborhood of Ebenezer Church.

I reached the church on the morning of the 4th instant, about 8 o'clock. I there learned that the enemy had landed at Baisden's Bluff, on Sapelo River. After landing they divided into two squads, one going to the bridge on said river, the other going to Ebenezer Church and secreting themselves in the undergrowth near the church, to await the arrival of the party who had been sent to the bridge for the purpose of burning it as soon as the citizens had crossed over who were to attend a meeting at Ebenezer Church, ordered by Colonel Gauling. After allowing the citizens to cross they burned the bridge, and then marched about 4 miles to the church. When in a few hundred yards of the church they gave a signal by firing a gun. The other party rushed from the woods on the opposite side of the church, thereby entirely surrounding it and capturing 23 citizens who had assembled for the purpose of meeting Colonel Gauling. After putting the prisoners under guard and taking the horses, they marched to Blue & Hall's Mill, about 8 miles below the church, where they expected to meet the boats that were to take them off that evening.

The above information I gained from Captain Lefils, who was one of the captured party, but was afterward turned loose on account of his old age. After learning this I made all possible speed to the above-named mill, which point I reached about 1 p. m., and found on my arrival that they had been gone about two hours.

I captured at the mill 1 sailor, who claims himself as a deserter, but who, I think, was left for some other purpose. They had fortified themselves at the mill by building breast-works of some hewn timber on the bluff of the river, at the end of a dam about 400 yards long, which is the only way by which the point could be reached. They were 107 strong; but notwithstanding their advantage in numbers, I think if I could have reached there in time I could have captured the entire party, as they had no possible chance for escape.

F. J. BROWNING,

*Capt., Comdg. Co. C, Twenty-ninth Batt. Georgia Cav.*

Adj. THOMAS BARROW, *Twenty-ninth Batt. Georgia Cav.*

**AUGUST 7, 1864.—Affair at Bayou Grand, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army, commanding District of West Florida.*

HDQRS. DIST. OF WEST FLA., Barrancas, Aug. 12, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report of August 8, No. 807, the following additional information in regard to rebel movements:

On the 7th instant, in the night, rebel cavalry made their appear-



ance at the mouth of the Bayou Grand, at Gonzales' house, and lighted the rooms, but were promptly shelled from our guns as well as the navy guard ships.

They set fire to the buildings, destroying them entirely, although the owner, Gonzales, was always a rebel, and is now with the rebels in arms against the United States. According to information received from refugees and deserters, there are three companies of the Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry at Pine Barren bridge, with four pieces of artillery, and three companies of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry near Gonzales', on the Pensacola railroad, changing their camp every night.

The railroad between Mobile and Pollard is more closely guarded than before, especially at Perdido Station. Between the Perdido and Mobile Bay there is only a picket-post of 15 mounted men, at Camp Withers, and five companies at Camp Powell. The Bonsecours Bay Salt-Works were destroyed by the rebels themselves. They evacuated the two batteries on the island this side Fort Morgan, withdrawing the soldiers to the fort and sending the colored working parties to Mobile.

The garrison at Fort Morgan numbers 600 men, 400 of the First Alabama Artillery and 200 Tennessee Artillery, General Page in command, and determined to hold the fort to the last man. The troops are supplied with an abundance of ammunition and six months' provisions.

Up to the 9th instant there was only 1 man killed and 1 officer, a Lieutenant Smith, wounded.

At Columbus, Ga., all the machinery from the arsenal and Government workshops was, on the 25th of July, packed and sent via Macon and Millen to Augusta, where the extensive powder-mills are, and it is generally believed that Hood's army, if forced to abandon Atlanta, will fall back on the same line, the only railroad communication left, the railroad to Montgomery, as well as to Madison, being destroyed.

The rebel army at Atlanta is reported about 100,000 strong, of whom 75,000 are effective men. The army is well supplied with provisions and ammunition and the health of the men tolerably fair, but the horses considerably worn down.

General Bragg was at Columbus on July 25, ordering out all men from sixteen to fifty-five, and directing, in person, the removal of all valuable rebel Government property.

Yesterday I received by flag of truce a communication from Major-General Maury, C. S. Army, dated Mobile, August 7, and inclosing several letters for Admiral Franklin Buchanan, C. S. Navy, at present a prisoner of war at the Pensacola navy-yard. The letters were of a private nature and of no importance. I receipted for them and ordered the party (Maj. R. H. Partridge, Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry, and 25 men) to return at once, strongly impressed as I am that the party came only to ascertain our movements in view.

Very respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**AUGUST 10, 12, 1864.—Skirmishes at Baldwin, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, August 15, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have little to report of interest. On the 10th instant there was some little skirmishing between the enemy's cavalry and the One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, which was engaged in destroying the railroad in front of Baldwin.

On the 12th, the enemy advanced with two companies of cavalry and a piece of artillery. The One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops was engaged in destroying the track about 3 miles in front of Baldwin. A small force of the Seventy-fifth Ohio in their front charged, and 2 men passing through the line were cut off and taken prisoners. Colonel Beecher fell back slowly, skirmishing with the enemy, and reported the case by messenger. I was in Baldwin and detached 100 cavalry and two pieces of artillery to his assistance. They drove the enemy back to the Saint Mary's, but took no prisoners. We lost all together 1 man killed and 4 taken prisoners.

The small force of cavalry at Magnolia has been constantly engaged in scouting within 10 miles of that station, and have frequent skirmishes with Dickison's cavalry. Several horses and sets of equipments have been captured by us. One man of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry was unfortunately killed by one of the infantry pickets.

It is confidently stated by the people from the vicinity of Gainesville that a force of Federal troops are making raids from Cedar Keys.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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**AUGUST 13-14, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Barrancas, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, August 14, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I left yesterday (the 13th instant), with a combined force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, about 1,400 strong, with the view of crossing the Perdido at its mouth and operating in the peninsula between Mobile Bay and the Perdido, capture the rebels' camps in the neck below Fish River, and ascertain if any Federal forces, and in what strength, had landed this side of Fort Morgan.

After marching 12 miles through a marshy country, mostly overflowed in consequence of the frequent heavy rains, I reached the old rebel camping-grounds on the narrow neck between the Gulf and the Perdido, 4 miles from its mouth, and encamped for the night.

At daybreak my pickets brought 3 deserters in, coming from the other side of the Perdido, with the report that the rebels had vacated

the cavalry camps (Withers and Powell), as well as the Bonsecours Salt-Works, under orders to report at Pine Barren bridge, this side of the Perdido, and asserting most positively that 5,000 Federal troops had landed on the north side of Fort Morgan, investing it upon Mobile Point.

Under these circumstances there was not only no further necessity for my crossing the Perdido and continuing to force my march with artillery and train at considerable risk through the hardly passable marshy country, but there was apparently more need for my troops this side the river, and I therefore returned to Barrancas, arriving here the same day, 14th, at 4 p. m.

Next day it was reported from Pensacola that the rebels, informed of my leaving Barrancas with the large portion of my forces, decided to risk a dash, and were actually moving down at the head of the Bayou Grand when I was returning up the beach of the Grand Lagoon. Thus it seems that my return was just in time, although I am confident that the rebels would have met, without my return, a warm reception and certain repulse on the ditch between Fort Barrancas and the redoubt.

In conclusion, I beg to state that at this my attempt to cross the Perdido without steamer (Mr. Clapp's steam-tug having failed to run down), I was more strongly impressed than ever of the urgent necessity of having two small steamers of 4 or 5 feet draught in this district. With such steamers at my disposal I could strike the river, following good country roads, and cross with artillery and trains without any trouble. I beg therefore to renew my former request for an order securing for this command the use of two small steamers of above draught.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Maj. C. T. CHRISTENSEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

#### AUGUST 15-19, 1864.—Union Raid on the Florida Railroad, including action (17th) at Gainesville, Fla.

##### REPORTS.\*

- No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.
- No. 2.—Col. William H. Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Infantry.
- No. 3.—Col. Andrew L. Harris, Seventy-fifth Ohio Infantry.
- No. 4.—Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army.
- No. 5.—Brig. Gen. John K. Jackson, C. S. Army.
- No. 6.—Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick, Second Florida Cavalry.
- No. 7.—Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry.

##### No. 1.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Army, commanding District of Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, August 19, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have come down this evening from Magnolia and am sorry that I have little good news. On Wednesday morning

\* See also Foster's report, p. 22.



Colonel Harris' command, composed of 138 of the Seventy-fifth Ohio, 90 of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, and 10 artillerymen, with one piece of artillery, were attacked at Gainesville by Major Dickison. The enemy's force is represented at from 500 to 700, with three pieces of artillery. From what I can learn the attack must have been a surprise. The men, however, fought well, but their ammunition being expended they were ordered to cut their way out. It would appear to have been a thorough rout. Up to dark this evening but 80 enlisted men and a few officers have come into Magnolia. I will give you a more detailed account as soon as possible, probably by the same mail that takes this.

Quite a number of the men were killed; three officers, wounded, known to be in the hands of the enemy, and a number of officers missing. It is believed that many of the men who are with the guides, and have taken to the swamps, will get in.

Colonel Noble's command arrived at Magnolia at 6.30 this p. m. All in excellent condition; had seen no enemy. They bring with them about 75 contrabands, and some few horses and mules.

I came down expecting to find the mail here from Hilton Head. Will return early in the morning to Magnolia.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,

*Commanding Department of the South.*

#### HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,

*Jacksonville, August 22, 1864.*

GENERAL: I inclose with this the report\* of Captain Dickison of the affair at Gainesville. The more I hear of the affair the worse it appears. Colonel Harris undoubtedly allowed his men to scatter through the town and, I fear, to pillage. He was undoubtedly surprised, and although the men individually fought pretty well, I do not believe they were at any time under control. You will perceive that neither the lieutenant-colonel nor the major of the regiment is a prisoner. It may be they were murdered after being taken, but they probably are in the swamps working their way to our lines. I shall have an investigation of the whole affair as soon as possible, but would like the testimony of some who are still absent, but not given up as lost. Colonel Harris has always borne the reputation of a brave man, but his regiment was without discipline.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,

*Commanding Department of the South.*

I have here in the river the Mary Benton and Hattie. The Hattie is most of the time out of order, and the Benton has to be employed bringing stores from Fernandina. I keep the Island City, as I cannot possibly do without her at present. I would much like authority to retain her here permanently, as I would put a gun on her and make her very useful. She is not a strong vessel, but is fast; peculiarly suited to river service.

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\* See p. 439.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., August 23, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of killed, wounded, and missing, in action at Gainesville, Fla., August 17, 1864:

Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry: Commissioned officers wounded, 4; commissioned officers missing, 8; enlisted men killed, 3; enlisted men wounded, 14; enlisted men missing, 86. From four companies of this regiment nothing has been heard, and all are classed among the missing, while doubtless, from the position they occupied, they sustained their share in the loss in killed and wounded.

Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry: Commissioned officers missing, 2; enlisted men killed, 2; enlisted men wounded, 13; enlisted men missing, 42.

Third Rhode Island Artillery: Enlisted men wounded, 1; enlisted men missing, 10.

The wounded men left in the hands of the enemy, except 3, who were brought in.

Total loss: Commissioned officers, 14; enlisted men, 171.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

P. S.—One missing from Seventy-fifth Ohio has since come in; it is hoped that others will yet reach our lines.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*August 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: We have little new here since the mail left this morning. I have learned that 5 of the Seventy-fifth Ohio came in yesterday to Magnolia and to-day; 3 of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry came here. I hope we shall have quite a number of others in, enough to reduce our loss considerably. The two companies of the Fourth Massachusetts arrived in good condition from Hilton Head. As soon as my fort at Magnolia is finished, I will send up the One hundred and second; probably on Monday.

Very truly, yours,

JNO. P. HATCH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Major-General FOSTER,  
*Commanding Department of the South.*

No. 2.

*Report of Col. William H. Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Magnolia, Fla., September 4, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 15th ultimo, in pursuance of verbal and written instructions from you, I marched at daylight with my column, composed of the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-

fifth, and One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, 20 of the [Seventy-fifth] Ohio Mounted Infantry, and a detachment of Third Rhode Island Artillery, three guns.

Preparation had been made to fire all the buildings at Baldwin and also large piles of the superstructure and iron of all the roads centering there. Instructions were left with the colonel of the One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers to apply the torch at 11 o'clock, withdraw his pickets which had replaced ours, and march his command to Cedar Creek in pursuance of instructions from your headquarters. Our line of march was at first on the west of the Cedar Keys and Gulf Railroad. This we crossed about 3 miles from Baldwin, and marched on the easterly side thereof, and at considerable distance from it, for most of the way, until we recrossed to the west side about 3 p. m. We here tore up and burned some half mile of the track of that road. We reached our designated camping-ground for the night (Trail Ridge) about sundown. We there found Colonel Harris and his mounted infantry. He reported to me his action at the ford of New River, and left about dusk for Starke.

On the next day, the 16th ultimo, we marched at daylight along the eastern border of the railroad, but soon turned by routes pointed out by our guides, which took us several miles to the east of said railroad and were not again nearer same than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. We made our camp at nightfall,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east from Starke, at a fork of the Sand Hill Lake and the east and west roads running to Starke.

The next morning we continued our route southward by the road running through the Sand Hill Lake country, a most interesting and beautiful region. We encamped at night at Shake Rug Corner, the junction of the road we had traveled with the Bellamy road. Here, having heard while making camp rumors of disaster to the command of Colonel Harris, and that all but 50 had been either killed or captured, we put out a strong picket and made our camp very compact. We sent out during the night several scouting parties. One of them visited the residence of Dr. McCrae, a bitter rebel, and gathered his horses and stock. In the morning after we made him a public visit and burned a large amount of cotton, some 4,000 pounds. On the day previous a like amount of rebel property was burnt.

The next morning, on examining the Bellamy road, we found marks of a considerable force with horses, which had gone east. Supposing these were a remnant of Colonel Harris' force and that others might come in, we did not break camp until late, and moved all the day very slowly, scouting on every side of the route for rebel property, &c. A force in command of Lieutenant Rice, acting commissary of subsistence, was sent out to break up a meeting for enrollment of volunteer militia and minute-men, but finding the place of rendezvous was some 18 miles back toward Gainesville they limited their work to bringing in slaves and other property. On this scout a large steam cotton-gin and mill, filled with some 20,000 pounds of cotton, was burned. We made our camp on the fourth day immediately north of Lake George, one wing of our line resting on the lake and the other on an extensive morass. During the day and evening some of the Ohio mounted infantry and Massachusetts cavalry came up with us.

On the 19th, we completed our march, as ordered, and arrived at Magnolia about sundown.



My staff and the Ohio mounted infantry were of very great use in accomplishing the purposes of the expedition. Without their aid we should have been able to have done nothing beyond the immediate route of march.

On the second day's march Lieutenant Rice, acting commissary of subsistence, with some 10 cavalry and several scouts (mounted Floridians), went to visit some rebels and to bring in the family of the well-known scout, Livingston. This they successfully accomplished, and returned at nightfall with the scout's family and a splendid 6-mule team and several contrabands. Had not Colonel Harris preceded us on the same route over which we passed on the third day, we should have been enabled to secure a much larger amount of property and number of contrabands.

I take great pleasure in bringing to your notice the very efficient aid I have received from Capt. T. D. Hodges, acting assistant adjutant-general, Lieut. Marshall N. Rice, Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, acting commissary of subsistence, and Lieutenant Johnson, Third U. S. Colored Troops, acting assistant quartermaster, each of whom I have found very energetic and familiar with the duties they discharged on my staff. From the officers of the command generally I have had every aid and assistance possible. They were at all times ready and present with their commands for orders, and they were by them executed promptly.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. NOBLE,

*Colonel, Comdg. U. S. Forces, Magnolia, Fla.*

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,

*Commanding District of Florida.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,

*Jacksonville, September 6, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded.

I am sorry to have to state that Colonel Noble did not take the route he was instructed to take. His movement was intended to be a demonstration against Lake City, to be made on the west side of the railroad. He appears to have kept almost entirely on the east side of the road.

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 13, 1864.

Colonel Noble's report is only valuable as a record of raiding and not of fighting. His mention of his personal staff for the above service is simply ridiculous. I desire the above remark to be sent to Colonel Noble, through General Hatch.

J. G. FOSTER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

ADDENDA.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,

*East of Saint John's and Magnolia, Fla., September 23, 1864.*

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of the South:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the following copy of an indorsement made by the major-general com-

manding Department of the South on my report of the expedition from Baldwin to Magnolia (August 15 to 19), via Cedar Keys railroad, &c., viz :

Colonel Noble's report is only valuable as a record of raiding, not of fighting. The mention of his personal staff for the above service is simply ridiculous. I desire the above remarks to be sent to Colonel Noble, through General Hatch.

In reference to the above, I beg to say through you that the opinion of the general commanding Department of the South I receive with great respect. I very much regret that my praise of the officers alluded to should be regarded by him as "simply ridiculous."

By gathering and destroying rebel property within rules, rescuing Union men, and liberating slaves to a distance in many instances of 15 miles from the column, they visited upon the enemy all the injury which the distinct line of march ordered by Brigadier-General Hatch gave me scope to inflict. That order of march I have clearly named in my report. I might have marched along this route without raiding, but I thought this punishment of the enemy a duty, the faithful execution of which by the officers named warranted my commendation. Their work, at any rate, was most valuable and severe. I deem myself very unfortunate that by praising them therefor I should have incurred so pointed reproach from the general commanding the department.

No one can regret so keenly as the officers and soldiers under me that because the enemy came not nigh our defined route we had no fighting to record. The general commanding could do neither myself nor the column which I had the honor to command a greater favor than to again put us in the field, with orders to seek the enemy and fight him where he might be found. I trust that in such a case neither the results from action nor the commendation of my officers (which, in the minor duties of the raid and the march, I deemed to foreshadow gallant conduct on the battle-field) would be other than to merit the approbation of the distinguished general commanding the Department of the South.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. NOBLE,

*Colonel Seventeenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers,*

*Commanding late Expedition from Baldwin.*

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,

*Jacksonville, September 27, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded.

JNO. P. HATCH,

*Brigadier-General.*

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No. 3.

*Report of Col. Andrew L. Harris, Seventy-fifth Ohio Infantry.*

HDQRS. SEVENTY-FIFTH OHIO VOL. INFANTRY,

*Magnolia, Fla., August 23, 1864.*

MAJOR: In obedience to instructions from headquarters District of Florida, dated August 13, 1864, I left Baldwin at daylight on the morning of the 15th instant, with 15 commissioned officers and 158

enlisted men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and one piece and 12 enlisted men of Company A, Third Rhode Island Artillery.

I proceeded by the way of Darby's Station to a point on New River west of Trail Ridge, said to be spanned by a bridge. Here I captured a part of the enemy's picket-post, but found no bridge. I destroyed the fort and returned to Trail Ridge, where I arrived about 6 p. m. Here I was joined by Colonel Noble's command.

Taking with me my wagons (three) and caissons, with the drivers, together with the cooks, smiths, &c., of my own regiment, making an addition of 15 men, I took up my line of march for Starke, where, owing to the bad state of the roads, I did not arrive till 2.30 o'clock on the morning of the 16th instant. I found Captain Morton, with 2 commissioned officers and 87 enlisted men of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, with some 12 or 15 loyal Floridians who had joined me for the expedition. I encamped here for the remainder of the night, and after destroying a lot of Confederate commissary stores and six cars, I resumed my march at 7.30 a. m., taking the way by Santa Fé Lake, as the Santa Fé River was reported by my guide, Mr. Sykes, to be unfordable. I arrived at Gainesville about 6.30 on the morning of the 17th instant, having marched all the previous night in order that I might secure a crossing over Hatchet Creek on the bridge, which, if broken down by the enemy, would have stopped my march in that direction, as the channel was deep and the banks bad for crossing. I found Gainesville occupied by one company of the enemy, numbering about 70 men, who were dislodged by Company B, of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry. As my horses were very much in need of rest and forage, I assigned the different parts of the command to their places, with orders for the men to keep on their own accouterments, slip the bridles from the horses and feed them. At the same time had the cooks to make coffee, all remaining close to their places.

My position was as follows: Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry near the center of the town, my piece of artillery in their rear, and the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry in the rear of the artillery near the Florida Railroad, all in open lots, while I threw out pickets on all sides, both mounted and dismounted.

At about 7 a. m., having been in the town about half an hour, the officer of the rear guard now on picket south of the town informed me that the enemy were rapidly approaching from that direction in heavy force. I made immediate preparations for defense, facing my command to the rear, throwing the right flank of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry to the left, resting on a swamp and thicket, and the left flank to the right, also resting on a swamp and thicket, while the howitzer was placed near the road, close to the center of the line. The Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry being dismounted, except Company I, which was sent to the north of town, took the fill of the Florida Railroad and the neighboring fences for protection, while the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry was held in reserve. This disposition was not complete when the enemy made a furious attack, which I repulsed as soon as possible. The enemy was checked in front, but he immediately surrounded me with his whole force, thus compelling me to send Company B, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, to the rear of the town, and throw portions of the Sev-



Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry on both the right and left flank, thus weakening my first line. By this disposition the enemy were held in check until 9 a. m., when the chief of my field piece reported that he was nearly out of ammunition, and would be able to hold his position only a few minutes longer. During this time Company B, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, had charged the enemy several times in rear of the town, thus keeping him in check in that quarter; but nearly half my horses having been disabled by the enemy's fire, both infantry and artillery, and my men being pushed from their cover, I concluded that my only safety was in retreat, cutting my way out the Waldo road, and if possible join Colonel Noble's command, which I supposed to be between Starke and Magnolia. I gave Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan and Captain Morton to understand what I intended to do, and had them assist as much as possible in forming the command, many of which were on foot. When my force was called in from the line it was closely followed by the enemy, so that no time was given to form the command in proper order before the column started. Here an unexpected accident occurred. Captain Morton, doubtless by mistake, led by one of the guides, took the road to Newnansville, followed by a part of the command, together with the howitzer. As soon as I saw that he had taken the wrong road I followed him and overtook him, and by making a detour around the town was again on the Waldo road, but the horses of the piece (the caisson having been abandoned in town, the horses being disabled) were entirely exhausted and the piece was captured by the enemy some 1 or 2 miles from town on the Waldo road. While being detained in my endeavors to get the gun away, the enemy again surrounded me, and appeared in strong force in front. I here turned off the road with some 38 men and 3 officers that were with me, took an easterly direction, not following any road, until I struck the Bellamy road about 15 miles from Gainesville, skirmishing with the enemy the greater portion of the way. As I expected to find Colonel Noble with his command between Starke and Magnolia, I followed this road until night, when the guide informed me he could not strike Colonel Noble's trail without getting lost. I rested three or four hours and then continued on the same road, and arrived at Magnolia next morning.

The advance, under Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan, were forced to leave the Waldo road by the enemy and to take the Lake City road, which they followed until nearly west of Waldo, when they turned east, crossing the railroad near Fort Harley, and taking the woods reached Magnolia about 11 a. m. next day. Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan's horse being disabled, he was compelled to abandon him and take to the swamps, and is probably a prisoner.

I had, during the night of the 16th, gathered about 200 blacks, consisting of men, women, and children, together with some wagons and about 40 horses and mules, nearly all of which were retaken by the enemy.

I found no citizens capable of bearing arms at home, and was told by the contrabands that they had gone to Waldo or Gainesville the day before, taking their arms and horses.

Many of my horses were unserviceable when I left Baldwin, owing to constant use during the summer and the short rations of forage, but I took them, hoping to be able to fill their places with better ones.

My loss, as far as known, is as follows:

Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry: Lieut. Col. Benjamin Morgan, Maj. George B. Fox, Capt. J. B. Alter, Company A; Capt. W. J. Rannels, Company I; First Lieut. R. F. Hall, Company A; First Lieut. J. F. Kempton, Company B; First Lieut. I. C. Price, Company C; First Lieut. B. Sprung, Company F, missing; Capt. Thomas F. Davenport, Company H; First Lieut. M. A. Knowlden, Company I; Second Lieut. D. J. Cline, Company H, wounded and prisoners. Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry: Captain Morton, Company D; First Lieutenant Mulligan, Company D, missing.

Enlisted men Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry: Company A, killed, 1; wounded, 5; missing, 6. Company B, killed, 1; wounded, 2; missing, 14. Company C, killed, 1; wounded, 4; missing, 28. Company E, missing, 14. Company G, wounded, 1; missing, 25. Company H, wounded, 1; missing, 4. Company I, missing, 9. Company K, wounded, 1; missing, 9.

Enlisted men Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry: Company B, killed, 1; wounded, 9; missing, 23. Company D, killed, 1; wounded, 4; missing, 19.

Enlisted men Third Rhode Island Artillery: Company A, missing, 12.

The enemy was apprised of my coming on Monday, and had made all necessary preparations for his defense by calling in his troops to meet him at Waldo, and assembling his militia at that point. His exact strength I was unable to learn, but think it not less than 600, and probably not more than 800, nearly all mounted, with three pieces of artillery.

The enemy fought with determination, and as he had me entirely surrounded, was confident that his superior force would decide the victory in his favor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. HARRIS,

*Colonel Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers.*

Maj. EDWARD L. ROGERS,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Seven enlisted (5 of the Seventy-fifth and 2 of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry) have returned since this report was made.

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No. 4.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, C. S. Army.*

CHARLESTON, August 20, 1864.

Captain Dickison, with greatly inferior numerical force, engaged enemy's cavalry and artillery at Gainesville, Fla., on the 17th, and completely routed them, capturing 150 prisoners, 1 piece of artillery, and 100 stolen negroes. The enemy was pursued 14 miles, and scattered. This is the third instance of successful gallantry on the part of Captain Dickison I have had occasion to report to you by telegraph.

SAM. JONES,

*Major-General.*

General S. COOPER.

## No. 5.

*Report of Brig. Gen. John K. Jackson, C. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Lake City, August 22, 1864.*

MAJOR: The telegram of Major-General Jones, directing, among other things, that I should go to the front, was received here in my absence, having previously returned from Tallahassee and gone to the front at Gainesville, where Captain Dickison was. I had ordered Colonel McCormick to pursue the enemy vigorously, with a view to driving them farther south, intending, if possible, to get between them and the river, and to use Dickison's command for the purpose. Upon arriving at Gainesville I learned that the enemy had abandoned his raid and fled to Green Cove Springs, on the Saint John's River, under protection of gun-boats. The enemy were not pursued by Colonel McCormick with the energy I expected, and moved off directly east and escaped him. Before receiving the order to call for a report from him I had relieved him from the position he occupied and placed Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, of the Fifth Florida Cavalry Battalion, in his stead, under the supervision of Colonel Turney.

Finding that the enemy had retreated to the Saint John's, I ordered back the force that had been at the Saint Mary's trestle (Camp Jackson), and have directed that they be advanced to Baldwin and Camp Milton. I ordered Captain Dickison to remain at Gainesville for a few days to watch a demonstration from Cedar Keys, which is threatened, a gun-boat and several barges being reported in the mouth of the Suwannee River. If nothing should come of it I have ordered him to scout in the neighborhood of Palatka and along the Saint John's.

I am anxious to repair the railroad from Camp Jackson to Baldwin and Camp Milton, in order that we may remove the iron from the Florida Railroad to complete the Georgia connection. I telegraphed to-day for the company of engineer troops at Savannah. Information has reached me that they are not employed on important work there. If they can be spared I will be obliged to the brigadier-general commanding to order them to me. The repairs to the road will enable me to subsist and forage the command in their advanced position at less labor and expense.

I am, major, &c.,

JOHN K. JACKSON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Charleston, S. C.*

## No. 6.

*Report of Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick, Second Florida Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS INFANTRY FORCES,  
*Darby's Station, East Fla., August 25, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this day of your communication of 22d instant, requiring a report of my recent expedition against the enemy in the neighborhood of Starke and Waldo,



On Monday, 15th instant, Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, commanding outpost, reported that the enemy's cavalry had crossed the railroad at Darby's in a force supposed to be about 100 strong, with one piece of artillery, and was moving to my right. He was at once ordered to put every available man in the saddle. I also ordered one howitzer from Captain Abell's battery and sent them, under command of Captain Rou, of Second Florida Cavalry, in pursuit. Captain Rou was ordered to ascertain the direction they were going and more definitely their numbers, and if necessary move parallel with them until he could form a junction with Captain Dickison's command, then supposed to be at Starke or Waldo.

On the next day a flag of truce was sent by the brigadier-general commanding to the enemy's lines, Major Goldthwaite, assistant adjutant-general, bearing it, who, upon arriving at Baldwin, 12 miles from Camp Jackson, at 3 p. m., found the place evacuated and burned, and that the enemy had apparently gone in a southerly direction. Scouts were immediately put upon their trail and the command ordered to be ready to move.

The reports from these scouts, received a little after daylight next morning, showed that the enemy were moving in the direction of Starke. I immediately started the command, consisting of about 480 muskets and 2 Napoleons, in pursuit. Kept scouts on the trail as closely as possible and myself informed of their movements. The first day's march brought me at 9 p. m. within 12 miles of Starke, where I learned at 11.30 p. m. that the enemy's infantry, supposed to be about 1,000 strong, with a small force of cavalry and some artillery and baggage wagons, were at 3 p. m. at Big Alligator crossing, on Black Creek and Newnansville road, 15 miles from me, and were moving up that road.

At 3 a. m., I again started on the most direct route to Waldo, hoping by making a forced march to intercept them if they continued up the Newnansville road, or reach Waldo in time to join Captains Rou and Dickison, should the enemy leave the Newnansville road and turn toward Waldo.

At 11.30 a. m., I halted to let the men rest, and while waiting one of my scouts returned and informed me that it was reported that Captain Dickison had met and defeated the cavalry at Gainesville. I now determined to push with all possible dispatch by the nearest route to where I expected to find the enemy's infantry, and notwithstanding the men (many of them unaccustomed to marching) were tired and footsore, they moved cheerfully as directed. We had not marched more than a mile or two when a courier from Colonel Earle, aide-de-camp to Governor Milton, arrived with a dispatch stating that the enemy with a force of 2,000 infantry were within 10 miles of Waldo and coming on. I immediately changed direction, hoping to reach Waldo and make a junction with the forces which I still presumed were there, and it was not until I was within 2 miles of Waldo, about 9 p. m., that I was informed that the enemy had that morning changed their direction and were making for the Saint John's River. Couriers were sent to inform Captain Dickison of my movements shortly after I left Camp Jackson, again when I turned to intercept the enemy, and again when I changed direction to go to Waldo, none of which returned to me, and neither did I get a dispatch from Captain Dickison until I was near the Santa Fé River, a few miles from Waldo.

Upon my arrival at Waldo at 10 p. m., I immediately sent a dispatch to you by way of Gainesville stating that I had reached there with my command, and that the enemy had returned to the Saint John's River. A short time afterward I received a dispatch from Captain Dickison stating that I would find him on the road toward Orange Springs or Palatka with his command, and I was not advised of any change in his intentions until the next morning at 7 o'clock, when I was informed by a citizen, who I was satisfied knew, that Captain Dickison was still at Gainesville. Captain Cone, with a detachment of about 50 men (cavalry), was at once sent to follow the enemy and ascertain positively if they had returned to the river, the balance of the command remaining at Waldo.

At 3 o'clock the next morning I received a dispatch from Captain Cone, informing me that he was on the east side of the Etoniah Scrubb at 5 p. m., and that the enemy's cavalry had reached Magnolia on Thursday evening, and that the infantry was there by that time. Finding that the enemy had escaped and reached the river, I at once determined to return with my command. Not knowing that the brigadier-general commanding was at Gainesville, and deeming Waldo to be the most suitable place for the position of forces for the defense of that portion of the State, I ordered Captain Dickison to move with his command to that place, but was informed by him that in obedience to orders he would move at 1 p. m. to Palatka. I at once went to Gainesville, where I met the brigadier-general commanding, and received from him an order to return with my command to Camp Jackson, which place I reached on the evening of the 21st instant.

The enemy's force reported to be moving on my right on Monday was very correctly supposed to be larger than my own force of cavalry then available, having at that time to picket a line of about 20 miles. Many of the cavalymen had been sent to the interior of the country for the purpose of remounting, and were daily returning with fresh horses, and when I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Scott to place every available man in the saddle to pursue them, I confidently expected that there would be enough men returning during the day to furnish the necessary and usual scouting parties that had been daily sent around Baldwin. In addition to the scouts that had been sent to the right of Baldwin on that day, 3 of the most reliable scouts were started to the Saint John's River to observe the movements of the transports. These men were to cross the railroad 5 or 6 miles to the right of Baldwin, and it was presumed that they would ascertain and report if there was any movement in that direction from Baldwin, and upon finding the trail the enemy's cavalry had made they followed it several miles, when one of them returned to camp to report, and the others went on toward the river and crossed the railroad and wagon road before the enemy's infantry passed, and consequently did not know of the movement.

The enemy's forces reported by Major Goldthwaite as having moved from Baldwin in a southerly direction did not travel the usual and direct road to Trail Ridge, but after leaving Baldwin some 3 or 4 miles crossed the railroad and went in a direction that would have taken them back to Middleburg. They, however, turned again and camped the first night at Trail Ridge. Their next day's march again indicated that they might return to the river, for they encamped at Kingsley's Pond, some 7 or 8 miles from Whitesville, going by Clay Hill. Their next day's march brought them at 3 p.

m. within 3 miles of Starke, where my scouts found them, and reported as stated previously. From this place they moved to the head of the Santa Fé River, which brought them only a few miles nearer to Waldo than they were at Alligator crossing, but they were so located as to be able to escape toward Palatka had I marched directly for them, or been too far advanced for me to cut them off had I turned toward Magnolia.

I omitted to mention in the proper place that in addition to the forces then at Camp Jackson I ordered Captain Pepper's command, at Lake City, leaving only enough there to do provost and other guard duty, to join me on my expedition.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

A. H. McCORMICK,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Captain MORENO,

*Assistant Adjutant-General, Lake City, Fla.*

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No. 7.

*Report of Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry.*

GAINESVILLE, FLA., August 17, 1864—3 o'clock.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I had engagement to-day with the cavalry force of the enemy at this place, and by Divine aid the victory was decisive and complete. It lasted about two hours; 140 or 150 prisoners were captured, and will be forwarded this afternoon. Among them were 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 1 surgeon, several killed and wounded. Our loss is slight—1 killed and 5 wounded. A 12-pounder howitzer was captured, with horses and fixtures complete; a fine piece. About 100 negroes were recaptured, with three of the enemy's wagons, a considerable number of horses, and other things. They numbered 342, and were the Seventy-fifth Ohio Regiment, Colonel Harris commanding, and Fourth Massachusetts. This party left Baldwin by Trail Ridge and passed between Waldo and Orange Springs. They pillaged and thieved everything as they went, stripping the houses. The whole command would have been captured, but my horses were completely worn down. I pursued them from 5 to 10 miles after the fight, one part going toward Newnansville and the other toward Waldo.

I had with me besides my own command Captain Rou's command of 80 men, from Second Florida Cavalry Regiment, and Captain McElvey, of Fifth Florida Cavalry Battalion, with a detachment of 40 men. I had only about 175 men in the engagement. The officers and men behaved with great gallantry. Lieutenant Bruton, of the artillery, exhibited great coolness and bravery. The march was commenced from Waldo last evening at 9 o'clock in pursuit, and after a most fatiguing march all night they were not overtaken until 8 o'clock this morning. The enemy are reported to have four regiments of colored troops at Starke, and I have them to watch and look after closely. I hope the cavalry will not be so difficult to manage hereafter.

I am, captain, your obedient servant,

J. J. DICKISON,

*Captain, Commanding.*

Capt. W. G. BARTH,

*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dist. of Fla., Lake City.*



[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
*Lake City, August 26, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded.

Since the above report was made it has been definitely ascertained that 28 of the enemy were killed, 5 wounded, and 188 captured, making the enemy's total loss 221.

JOHN K. JACKSON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

A D D E N D A .

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. MIL. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
No. 41. } *Lake City, August 26, 1864.*

With pride and pleasure the brigadier-general commanding announces to the troops of this district the brilliant victory of Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry, and his brave command. After a forced march from Waldo they met the enemy at Gainesville, and, undaunted by the superiority of his numbers, attacked and completely routed him. The fruits of this victory were 221 of the enemy killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, 1 piece of artillery (all he had), 3 wagons, and a large number of horses with their equipments captured. Our loss was but 2 killed and 4 wounded. All this was achieved by Captain Dickison with less than 175 men.

This unparalleled success merits for the gallant little band in South Florida the everlasting gratitude of their countrymen, whose homes and honor they have saved from a brutal soldiery. The brigadier-general commanding tenders to them his sincere thanks, and promises that every effort on his part shall be exerted to secure to their leader the reward of promotion which he so richly deserves, and which they have enabled him to win.

By command of Brigadier-General Jackson :

S. A. MORENO,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

• AUGUST 17, 1864.—Skirmish at South Newport, Ga.

*Reports of Lieut. Col. Arthur Hood, Twenty-ninth Battalion Georgia Cavalry.\**

STATION NO. 3, ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD,  
*August 18, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I regret to report that about 12 o'clock last night Company F, Third South Carolina Cavalry, Lieutenant Mole commanding, stationed at or near South Newport, was surprised and most of the company either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners. I am unable to report the exact loss, but suppose it will reach 50, including Lieutenants Mole and Platts. I have seen 1 of the men who escaped from camp, and heard of 9 others. I can only at this time account for about 20 men of the company. It is probable that a few more may have escaped. It is reported to me by those who escaped that the

\*For report of Rear-Admiral John A. Dahlgren, U. S. Navy, see p. 362 of Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

enemy came up South Newport River and landed cavalry and infantry; the force unknown. I at once ordered down the force I had here, and have ordered from the bridge that portion of Companies C and G that are dismounted. I will as soon as possible find out the force of the enemy, and whether or not they have returned to their boats. I am afraid there was culpable neglect upon the part of the commanding officer of the company. I inclose copies of orders I had issued to him, instructing him to guard his camp. I also verbally called his particular attention to this matter. Looking to the importance of this matter I instructed Lieutenant Mole, by orders and verbally, to make a reconnaissance of the coast. I furnished him, so far as I could, with a rough map of the coast, stating to him that he must rely on his own reconnaissance for exact information. I could only give him such as I could gather from conversation with citizens of the vicinity. I will have the matter thoroughly investigated and report all the information I can get. I have no idea the enemy landed any cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HOOD,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. ROBERT GRANT,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, {	STATION NO. 3, AT. AND GULF R. R.,
No. 71. }	August 10, 1864.
*        *	*        *

IV. Second Lieut. W. F. Mole, commanding Company F, Third South Carolina Cavalry, by paragraph III, Special Orders, No. 182, district headquarters, ordered to report to me, will proceed to Riceborough with his command at once, and upon his arrival there report to these headquarters. Upon his arrival there he will place sufficient pickets to protect his command.

\*        \*        \*        \*        \*        \*

By order of Lieut. Col. A. Hood, commanding:

THOS. BARROW,  
*Adjutant.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, {	STATION NO. 3, AT. AND GULF R. R.,
No. 72. }	August 12, 1864.
*        *	*        *

II. Lieutenant Mole, commanding Company F, Third South Carolina Cavalry, will remove with his command to or near South Newport. He will so arrange his pickets that his command will be sufficiently protected. He will be held responsible for the proper protection of the coast in McIntosh County. He will make a thorough reconnaissance of the coast, and so arrange his pickets and scouts that any landing of the enemy will be known. Any landing at or near Darien will be communicated to Major Camfield at No. 5, as well as to these headquarters. He will at all times keep his command well in hand.

\*        \*        \*        \*        \*        \*

By order of Lieut. Col. A. Hood, commanding:

THOS. BARROW,  
*Adjutant.*

STATION NO. 3, ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD,  
August 20, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: Lieutenant Mole has not yet reported to me. I am in receipt of a dispatch from Captain Browning, whom I sent to McIntosh County, who reports that the enemy carried off—

Of Company F, Third South Carolina.....	38
Citizens .....	5
Negroes .....	51
Total.....	94

The enemy destroyed the bridge over South Newport River. I have ordered Captain Browning to remain at Jonesville for the present.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HOOD,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Lieut. J. HUNTER,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

**AUGUST 29, 1864.—Skirmish at Milton, Fla.**

*Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army, commanding District of West Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, August 30, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I left Barrancas yesterday morning (29th instant), with 200 of the Second Maine Cavalry, two companies of the Nineteenth Iowa Infantry, and two pieces of the First Florida Battery, on the steamers Clinton and Planter, with a view to capture three new companies of rebel cavalry reported to be at Milton, Fla.

I arrived early in the forenoon at the mouth of the Bayou Mulatte, or Black Bayou, Escambia Bay, but being unable to enter it with the Clinton (she drawing 8 feet of water) the disembarkation of the cavalry was delayed till 3 p. m., when I proceeded to Milton, Fla., a distance of 9 miles, and after rebuilding the destroyed bridge on the Arcadia Creek, I came upon the enemy, about 100 strong, and consisting of Captain Goldsby's (Alabama) cavalry company and a new militia infantry company, mounted.

Having received early information of the arrival of two army steamers at Bayou Mulatte, the enemy had sent his stores on seven wagons in time toward Pollard, and seemed prepared and decided to accept a fight in the camp at the upper end of the town, but fled, upon our impetuous charge, in all directions. We pursued them closely for 7 miles, and captured 4 privates of Goldsby's company and 3 colored men, mounted and armed, with 7 horses and 5 mules with equipments, and 20 Austrian rifles.

Returning to Milton late in the evening I gave rest and food to men and horses, and started at 1 o'clock this morning back to Mulatte Bayou, where I commenced re-embarking at daylight, and arrived and disembarked here at Barrancas at 6 p. m., without any loss except 1 horse killed after total exhaustion.



By the fact above stated of the Clinton not being able to pass the mouth of the Bayou Mulatte, and to approach the landing-place nearer than 2 miles, all chance for surprising the rebel camp was lost, and as all my future movements into the interior will require a partial transportation of the troops by water up the different tributaries of the Pensacola Bay or the Perdido River, I would respectfully request that the steamer Planter, which answers well in these waters, and the Matamoras, daily expected in New Orleans from Brazos Santiago, be ordered for duty in this command.

Very respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

MAJ. GEORGE B. DRAKE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SEPTEMBER 18-OCTOBER 4, 1864.—Expedition from Barrancas to Marianna, Fla., including affair (September 23) at Euchee Anna Court-House and action (September 27) at Marianna.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth, U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*In the Field, September 23, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report of September 18, No. 1076, that, crossing Pensacola Bay from Barrancas to Navy Cove, Live Oak plantation, on the evening of the same day I proceeded with 700 mounted men on the old Military or Jackson road, 50 miles to Rodgers' Gap, on the narrows of Santa Rosa Island, 6 miles west of East Pass. At that point from the steamer Lizzie Davis [I supplied] my command with rations.

I ascended on the 20th instant on the Ridge road, after a march of 134 miles, into the interior of West Florida, and surprised this morning at daybreak Euchee Anna Court-House, with the following result, viz: Nine prisoners of war and 6 political prisoners, 46 horses with equipments, 8 mules, and 28 stand of arms. With the prisoners are W. H. Terrence, militia colonel; First Lieut. Francis M. Gordan, Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry; William Cawthon, an influential rebel leader, and Allen Hart, a wealthy rebel beef contractor.

After making proper arrangements to secure a large number of beef-cattle on the Shoal River, and actually destroying Douglass' Ferry, on the Choctawhatchee River, with all the smaller boats in the vicinity, I will resume my march to-morrow to Cerro Gordo, with a view to cross the Choctawhatchee River.

My troops, although continually exposed to heavy rains, are in good health and excellent spirits.

The prisoners, with the arms taken, and the unserviceable horses, also 16 colored recruits, enlisted this day, I send down to La Grange (Four-Mile Landing), to be received there by quartermaster steamer Lizzie Davis.

rebels attacked my force, which reserved its fire until within short range. Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling withdrew with a loss of 1 man (Nineteenth Iowa) killed, and another (First Florida Battery) slightly wounded. The rebels must have suffered severely.

On the 19th, the Planter went into Escambia Bay, accompanied by 125 men under Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling, Second Maine Cavalry, and brought away 15,000 new brick and a lot of doors and window sash. Detailed reports will be forwarded of both these expeditions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BAILEY.

*Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. JAMES E. MONTGOMERY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.*

No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Andrew B. Spurling, Second Maine Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND MAINE CAVALRY,

*Barrancas, Fla., October 18, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with Special Orders, No. 245, dated headquarters District of West Florida, October 17, 1864, I left the wharf at this place on the morning of the 18th instant at 10 o'clock, on the steamer Planter, with a detachment of 200 men from the Nineteenth Iowa Volunteers and one section of the First Florida Battery, and proceeded up the Blackwater within 9 miles of Milton, where I landed, and, after establishing a strong picket-line, commenced to secure the logs in that vicinity. While thus engaged the enemy attacked me with a force, I should judge, of 300 men. After a skirmish of two hours the battery opened upon them, when they fell back out of range. I then succeeded in securing 140 logs, and returned with a loss of 1 man killed and 1 wounded of the Nineteenth Iowa Volunteers, and 1 man wounded of the First Florida Battery. I could not ascertain what damage we did to the enemy.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

A. B. SPURLING,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Second Maine Cavalry.*

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. BAILEY,

*Commanding District of West Florida.*

**OCTOBER 24, 1864.—Skirmish near Magnolia, Fla.**

*Report of Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, No. 2,

*Camp Miller, November 3, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: The following report of an engagement between C. S. forces stationed near Waldo, under command of Capt. J. J. Dickison,

Second Florida Cavalry, and a force of the enemy's cavalry, near Magnolia, Fla., is respectfully submitted, for the information of the brigadier-general commanding :

HEADQUARTERS SOUTH FLORIDA FORCES,  
*Camp Baker, October 31, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT : I have the honor respectfully to submit the following report of the late engagement with the enemy's cavalry on the evening of the 24th instant :

My outpost picket reported on the 22d instant that the enemy were coming out from Magnolia. I immediately took detachments of Companies C and H, Second Florida Cavalry, and Company H, Fifth Florida Battalion Cavalry, and one piece of artillery and marched for the vicinity of Magnolia. On arriving there I found that the enemy had come out at Finegan's Ford and had gone in the direction of Middleburg, where they had burned several buildings and stolen 2 negroes. On their return I made a flank movement and cut off their retreat from Magnolia. I engaged them near Black Creek, about 6 miles from Magnolia. The fight lasted about forty minutes and resulted in a complete rout of the enemy, many of them so hotly pursued that they took for the swamp, bogging their horses, dismounted and took the swamp, leaving in our hands 23 prisoners and 10 or 12 killed. Of the 23 prisoners 8 were wounded. A captain, who was badly wounded, secreted himself in the swamp, and was unable to find him.

In the engagement we captured 32 horses and killed 10; captured 15 Spencer rifles, 12 pistols, 12 sabers, and 33 saddles, all of which have been reported to their proper departments.

Our loss was 2 horses killed and 2 wounded. No man hurt on our side.

The enemy's force consisted of detachments of four companies of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, commanded by a lieutenant-colonel and major; in all about 55 strong.

The following officers commanded their various detachments: Captain Chambers, Company C; Lieut. W. H. McCardell, Company H; Lieut. M. Haynes, Company H, Fifth Battalion. Much praise is due to both officers and men for their gallantry displayed on this occasion, and they have my highest commendation; and by the protection of Divine Providence all came out safe to enjoy the glory of this complete victory.

I am, lieutenant, yours, most respectfully,

J. J. DICKISON,  
*Captain, Commanding Forces.*

Lieut. W. D. BARNES,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Respectfully,

P. TURNEY,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. S. A. MORENO,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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OCTOBER 25-28, 1864.—Expedition up Blackwater Bay and skirmish (26th)  
at Milton, Fla.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Bvt. Brig. Gen. Joseph Bailey, U. S. Army, commanding District of West Florida.

No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Andrew B. Spurling, Second Maine Cavalry, commanding expedition.

No. 1.

*Report of Bvt. Brig. Gen. Joseph Bailey, U. S. Army, commanding District of West Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, October 25 [28], 1864.*

MAJOR: An expedition of 700 men (100 Second Maine Cavalry, mounted, 100 First Florida Cavalry, dismounted, 200 Nineteenth



rebels attacked my force, which reserved its fire until within short range. Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling withdrew with a loss of 1 man (Nineteenth Iowa) killed, and another (First Florida Battery) slightly wounded. The rebels must have suffered severely.

On the 19th, the Planter went into Escambia Bay, accompanied by 125 men under Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling, Second Maine Cavalry, and brought away 15,000 new brick and a lot of doors and window sash. Detailed reports will be forwarded of both these expeditions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BAILEY.

*Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

MAJ. JAMES E. MONTGOMERY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.*

No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Andrew B. Spurling, Second Maine Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND MAINE CAVALRY,

*Barrancas, Fla., October 18, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with Special Orders, No. 245, dated headquarters District of West Florida, October 17, 1864, I left the wharf at this place on the morning of the 18th instant at 10 o'clock, on the steamer Planter, with a detachment of 200 men from the Nineteenth Iowa Volunteers and one section of the First Florida Battery, and proceeded up the Blackwater within 9 miles of Milton, where I landed, and, after establishing a strong picket-line, commenced to secure the logs in that vicinity. While thus engaged the enemy attacked me with a force, I should judge, of 300 men. After a skirmish of two hours the battery opened upon them, when they fell back out of range. I then succeeded in securing 140 logs, and returned with a loss of 1 man killed and 1 wounded of the Nineteenth Iowa Volunteers, and 1 man wounded of the First Florida Battery. I could not ascertain what damage we did to the enemy.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

A. B. SPURLING,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Second Maine Cavalry.*

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. BAILEY,

*Commanding District of West Florida.*

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*Camp Baker, October 31, 1864.*

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In the engagement we captured 32 horses and killed 10; captured 15 Spencer rifles, 12 pistols, 12 sabers, and 33 saddles, all of which have been reported to their proper departments.

Our loss was 2 horses killed and 2 wounded. No man hurt on our side.

The enemy's force consisted of detachments of four companies of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, commanded by a lieutenant-colonel and major; in all about 55 strong.

The following officers commanded their various detachments: Captain Chambers, Company C; Lieut. W. H. McCardell, Company H; Lieut. M. Haynes, Company H, Fifth Battalion. Much praise is due to both officers and men for their gallantry displayed on this occasion, and they have my highest commendation; and by the protection of Divine Providence all came out safe to enjoy the glory of this complete victory.

I am, lieutenant, yours, most respectfully,

J. J. DICKISON,  
*Captain, Commanding Forces.*

Lieut. W. D. BARNES,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Respectfully,

P. TURNEY,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*

Capt. S. A. MORENO,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

#### OCTOBER 25-28, 1864.—Expedition up Blackwater Bay and skirmish (26th) at Milton, Fla.

##### REPORTS.

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##### No. 1.

*Report of Bvt. Brig. Gen. Joseph Bailey, U. S. Army, commanding District of West Florida.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, October 25 [28], 1864.*

MAJOR: An expedition of 700 men (100 Second Maine Cavalry, mounted, 100 First Florida Cavalry, dismounted, 200 Nineteenth

Iowa, and 300 colored troops), under Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling, Second Maine Cavalry, to Blackwater Bay, which left here on the 25th instant, returned to-day.

The rebels were driven through Milton by the cavalry, and 8 captured, besides 5 or 6 known to have been killed or wounded. My plans were to catch the whole gang of Confederates, about 100 strong, but failed, through a misconception of orders on the part of one of the detachment commanders. Eight cribs of Confederate lumber, containing over 85,000 feet, seasoned (1 inch or 1½ inches thick, and 5 or 6 inches wide), 15,000 feet besides of seasoned lumber, and 130 logs were the proceeds of the expedition.

No casualties in my force. A detailed report will be sent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BAILEY,

*Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Maj. JAMES E. MONTGOMERY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Andrew B. Spurling, Second Maine Cavalry, commanding expedition.*

HDQRS. SECOND MAINE CAVALRY VETERAN VOLS.,  
*Barrancas, Fla., October 31, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor respectfully to submit the following report:

Pursuant to orders from headquarters District of West Florida, I embarked on the morning of the 25th October, on steam transport at Barrancas, in charge of a force consisting of a detachment of the Second Maine Veteran Cavalry of 100 men, 100 dismounted men of the First Florida Cavalry, and a detachment of the Nineteenth Iowa Infantry, Twenty-fifth, Eighty-second, and Eighty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, and Company M (Captain Roberts), Second Maine Cavalry, dismounted for battery purposes, and in charge of two howitzers, the whole amounting in the aggregate to over 700 men.

Captain Stearns, of the Eighty-second Colored Infantry, was placed in charge of one of the transports, Lizzie Davis, with 200 infantry, with orders to proceed up the Blackwater River, to land a force 8 miles below Pierce's Mill, and distant from Milton 13 miles, to raft logs, which are numerous along the shore, and by other and all his actions endeavor to draw the enemy upon the narrow point of land or peninsula formed by Escambia Bay on the west and East Bay and Blackwater River on the east. I proceeded with the other transport, the Planter, to Pensacola, remaining there till late in the afternoon; from thence up Escambia Bay, and late in the night landed 300 infantry, under charge of Major Mudgett, of the Eighty-sixth Colored Infantry, at Bayou ———, a point on the east side of Escambia Bay, opposite Pierce's Mill, with orders that he should march to the head of the bayou and remain there till he should hear cannonading on the other side of the narrow point of land, when he would deploy his force across to Pierce's Mill, thus cutting off the retreat of the enemy, whom I expected, and had good



reason to believe, Captain Stearns would succeed in drawing into the trap which I had prepared for them, inasmuch as they had in considerable force on former occasions attacked me while I was engaged in procuring logs at points 7 or 8 miles below the mill. After landing Major Mudgett I proceeded back with the Planter, and on the following morning, having rounded the point of the peninsula, was on my way up East Bay or Blackwater River.

I did not find the other transport, the Lizzie Davis, 8 miles below the mill. It soon became apparent that Captain Stearns had failed to conform to my orders. Instead of landing as he was directed, he had gone 6 or 7 miles too far, and some time elapsed before I found the Lizzie Davis anchored in a small cove a mile or two from the mill. Thus the enemy was not induced to come far down upon the point of land as I designed, and as would have been the case had my orders been fully carried out, and as my report will clearly show. On coming up with the Lizzie Davis, I directed Captain Lincoln, of the Second Maine Cavalry, to relieve Captain Stearns of his command, to land with all possible dispatch the 200 men on board, and march direct to Milton. By 11 a. m., Captain Lincoln had landed the troops from the Lizzie Davis. I proceeded with the Planter to Pierce's Mill and landed the cavalry and battery, which I had been holding in reserve, and immediately moved toward Milton, soon coming upon Captain Lincoln, whom I found engaged with a force of the enemy's cavalry. It seems that Captain Lincoln, after landing, before he had hardly taken up the march, was met by a considerable force of cavalry, with which he became engaged. He drove the enemy to the mill, and beyond it on the Milton road, where they made a stand under cover of some old buildings. On my arrival at this point the firing was quite rapid, and a brisk skirmish was going on. I immediately charged with the detachment of cavalry which I had brought up, and drove the rebels from the old buildings. They fled in wild confusion on the Milton road. At a bridge they attempted to make a stand, but all to no purpose. I pursued them through Milton and out on the Pollard road, a distance of over 8 miles, capturing 9 prisoners and wounding quite a number. Their rout was complete. Their arms and equipments, and everything that could impede flight, were thrown away.

There were no casualties in my own force. The enemy's force consisted of a detachment of between 70 and 80 of the Eighth Mississippi Cavalry and a small force of militia.

Having kept up the pursuit as long as it was prudent, my horses becoming exhausted, and it growing late in the day, I returned to Milton, and leaving the cavalry to hold the place, went back to the Planter, which I ordered to be moved up to a place called Bagdad, less than 2 miles from Milton, and here I secured quite a large amount of lumber, about 85,000 feet. I dispatched a courier to Major Mudgett, with orders for him to move his force from the bayou to Pierce's Mill, and hold himself in readiness to embark at that point on the following morning.

On the following morning the pickets were taken in, and the Planter moved up the river to Milton, thus exploding, if not the torpedoes, the idea and belief that they are planted in the river to obstruct its passage by boats. Here several flat-boats were secured, and the ferry across the river completely demolished. Quite an amount of commissary and quartermaster's property was found,

among which was about 200 bushels of corn and meal and considerable ham and beef, and since there was no means of transportation by which it could be got to the boat it was destroyed. Considerable surplus ordnance, accouterments, and horse equipments were also destroyed. Several horses and mules were captured. Having brought off or destroyed everything that could be of use to the enemy, and having accomplished all that circumstances could admit of, I returned to Barrancas with my whole force, where I arrived on the morning of the 28th.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. SPURLING,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. BAILEY,

*Commanding District of West Florida.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,

*November 8, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded to Major-General Granger, commanding District of West Florida and South Alabama. Lieutenant-Colonel Spurling is deserving a very great deal of credit for his management of this and other expeditions. I find him a most invaluable officer.

J. BAILEY,

*Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS RELATING  
TO OPERATIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND FLORIDA,  
AND ON THE GEORGIA COAST, FROM JANUARY 1 TO  
FEBRUARY 29, 1864.\*

UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

HEADQUARTERS GORDON'S DIVISION,

*January 1, 1864.*

General TURNER, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the inclosed letter from Captain Balch, commanding U. S. sloop of war Pawnee, showing that an iron-clad would have no difficulty in entering the Stono River should it be necessary, in reply to an interrogatory of the major-general commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. GORDON,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

U. S. STEAM SLOOP PAWNEE,

*Stono Inlet, S. C., December 31, 1863.*

General GORDON, *Commanding Post:*

GENERAL: In reply to your question as to whether an iron-clad can come from outside into Stono Inlet, I have to reply that it is

\*For Union and Confederate Correspondence, &c., from March 1 to November 13, 1864, see Part II.

perfectly practicable. The iron-clad Nantucket was in here in July and had no difficulty either coming in or going out. There are 13 feet 6 inches of water on the bar at high water, and by watching a favorable chance an iron-clad can, in my opinion, be safely brought into Stono.

Very truly, your friend,

GEO. B. BALCH,  
*Commander.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,  
*New Orleans, La., January 2, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. D. P. WOODBURY,  
*Commanding District of Key West and Tortugas:*

GENERAL: Your letter\* of 14th December ultimo has been this day received and laid before the commanding general, who fully approves of your action in regard to the establishment of the small post on Charlotte Harbor, and in the matter of enlistments of refugees from the portion of Florida occupied by the insurgents.

It will not be practicable during the present active operations in other portions of the department to give you re-enforcements, nor can the commanding general give you any hope of soon receiving re-enforcements from the North; but you will receive all practicable assistance in your laudable endeavor to increase your force by enlistment. The gentlemen recommended by you will be duly commissioned. The chief of ordnance has been directed to forward to you 500 muskets, with accouterments and ammunition.

Very respectfully, I am, general, your most obedient servant,

CHAS. P. STONE,  
*Brigadier-General, Chief of Staff.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
HDQRS. IN THE FIELD, ENGINEER'S OFFICE,  
*Folly Island, January 4, 1864.*

Captain BURGER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general, that the machines for twisting railroad bars have not yet been made at the engineer depot for want of suitable iron. The experimental ones are too light. The artillery tramways are not completed for want of 2-inch plank, which is not furnished on requisition. The material for the additional platform at Fort Greene has not yet been furnished.

The steamer Philadelphia has not yet been turned over by General Gordon for alteration. All the materials that are wanted and can at present be had are got together for the purpose of making the necessary change. Requisition was made the day after the order was received for altering and repairing the large scow at Pawnee Landing for such material as is required. It has not yet been furnished.

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\* See Vol. XXVI, Part I, p. 855.



I desire to call attention to the fact that there are no wagons with the pontoon train at Hilton Head, and none in the department that I know of, suitable for transporting it, except those belonging to the old train No. 7.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. W. SERRELL,  
*Colonel and Asst. Engineer, Dept. of the South.*

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HEADQUARTERS GORDON'S DIVISION,  
*Folly Island, S. C., January 5, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I am not at all satisfied with the defenses on Cole's Island. I very much need the services of a competent engineer within the limits of my command. As I have none such, I should be very much obliged if you would place one under my orders for the present—of the regular Army, if possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. GORDON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Post.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 6, 1864.

Lieutenant Michie, U. S. Engineers, will be temporarily assigned to duty with Brigadier-General Gordon.

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General.*

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DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,  
*Folly Island, S. C., January 6, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,  
*Adj. Gen. U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of General Orders, No. 39, from headquarters Commonwealth of Massachusetts, dated December 3, 1863, assigning to duty in this department a battalion of veteran cavalry, now being raised in that State. I am not aware whether this assignment is made upon authority from the War Department, but in case it is duly authorized I desire respectfully to urge that the men be forwarded without delay.

The necessity for cavalry here is so great that I am mounting infantry as a temporary expedient. Upon these large islands the picket duty alone requires a large number of mounted men, and my present force is entirely inadequate. I respectfully request that immediate measures be taken to supply the deficiency from some source.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., January 6, 1864.*

Forwarded, for the information of the General-in-Chief.

I am much in want of cavalry, and very much wish that the new organization, or the battalion now in this department as a nucleus, may be hurried forward.

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

GENERAL ORDERS, } COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,  
No. 39. } *Hdqrs., Boston, December 3, 1863.*

The battalion of cavalry recently detached from the First Regiment of Cavalry, Massachusetts Volunteers, and known as the First Battalion of Cavalry, Massachusetts Volunteers, now serving at Port Royal, S. C., will form with the First Battalion of Veteran Cavalry, Massachusetts Volunteers, now recruiting in Massachusetts, the Fourth Regiment of Cavalry of the Massachusetts Volunteers.

Recruits for this organization will receive all bounties and emoluments allowed to recruits for old regiments, whether paid by the State or the United States, and will be received as recruits for old organizations now in the field.

Lieut. Col. Arnold A. Rand is appointed to the command of the regiment.

By order of His Excellency John A. Andrew, Governor and Commander-in-Chief:

NEHEMIAH BROWN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF PENSACOLA,  
*Barrancas, Fla., January 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE,  
*Chief of Staff, Hdqrs. Department of the Gulf:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report No. 198, dated 27th December,\* relative to the enlistment of white soldiers, that the small steamer *Bloomer* promised to me by Capt. A. Gibson, U. S. Navy, was found disabled at East Pass and unable to assist Captain Galloway to collect and bring down refugees as expected; nevertheless, the number of Florida recruits exceeds already 120.

In regard to rebel movements in my neighborhood I beg to report the following additional information:

Off Mobile the gun-boat *Tennessee*, iron plated and mounting eight guns, is intended to run the blockade as soon as they can "camel" her over the bar. She is to run out under the command of Admiral Buchanan.

The troops become daily more dissatisfied, in consequence of which their location is frequently changed to make desertion more difficult. At the Fifteen-Mile Station, on the Pensacola railroad, 75 laid down their arms, refusing further service, and were sent under arrest to Pollard.

\*See Vol. XXVI. Part I, p. 886.

General Clanton has ordered three companies of cavalry with three pieces of artillery from Pollard down near Choctawhatchee Bay, partly to intercept refugees and deserters on their way to East Pass, and partly to protect the fitting out and loading of several rebel schooners with cotton and lumber intended to run the blockade. Two citizens, J. L. Thorp, from Montgomery, and L. Berry, from Alaqua, who are working tools in the matter, with instructions from General Clanton and the rebel Governor Milton, were arrested yesterday by my order, and this morning I started 50 men, all I could possibly spare, on the private schooner Buchanan and the steamer Bloomer, loaned to me by the navy, in charge of Captains Smalley and Galloway, up the Santa Rosa Sound to the East Pass and the Choctawhatchee Bay, in order—

First. To collect and bring down refugees willing to enlist into the service of the United States.

Second. To capture and bring down to Barrancas the rebel schooner Champion, loaded with cotton, and evidently intended to run the blockade; and

Third. To capture and bring down to Barrancas any other rebel schooner or vessel lying in the Choctawhatchee Bay and not already taken possession of by the U. S. Navy.

Believe me, general, that movements of importance could be started from here if the general commanding would kindly grant me the requested re-enforcements with two small steamers, and I venture therefore to renew herewith once more my former application.

Inclosed I beg to forward a requisition for 200 cavalry horses and equipments, to mount the Florida recruits and prepare them for field service. Captain Schmidt, Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, is detailed to take the horses in charge.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACH., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., January 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff to Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore,  
Commanding Department of the South:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of duty performed in opening signal line of communication between department headquarters, on Folly Island, S. C., and Hilton Head, S. C.:

During the latter part of September I suggested to the major-general commanding the practicability of a line through, and after some consideration of the subject he authorized me to construct it. The plan I had submitted contemplated the erection of three towers, respectively, at Botany Bay, Otter, and Saint Helena Islands. He directed Colonel Serrell, commanding New York Volunteer Engineers, to build these towers at the points designated by myself.

This order was issued on the 6th of October, and on the following day I went, accompanied by Colonel Serrell, on board the steamer Ella Morse, to visit the points selected for towers and determine the exact location. That afternoon we located the tower on Botany Bay, and it being too late to go into Saint Helena Sound that night



we proceeded directly to Beaufort, via Hilton Head, arriving there at midnight. I immediately crossed to Ladies Island, and procured transportation, and at daylight we started and visited several points on Saint Helena Island, and determined the location of that tower; returning to Beaufort that night, we started for Otter Island, but getting aground were compelled to wait all night, and arrived at Otter Island in the morning, and thence, having decided on the location of the tower at that point, returned to Folly Island on the afternoon of the 9th.

Colonel Serrell detailed three parties of men to build the towers. Each building party consisted of a sergeant and 10 men, the whole under the charge of Lieutenant Hartmann, of that regiment.

A fatigue detail of 120 men was also ordered from the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, of which 90 were left with the Botany Bay party and 35 with the Otter Island party.

Lieutenant Hartmann was provided with orders addressed to Brig. Gen. R. Saxton, directing him to detail 25 men from a colored regiment as a fatigue party on Saint Helena Island, which he did. The quartermaster having been directed to place a steamer at the disposal of Lieutenant Hartmann for this duty, designated the *Peconic*.

On the night of the 11th, all material, &c., having been got on board, I went on board the *Peconic*, and at daylight of the 12th she got under way. We landed the working parties at Botany Bay and visited Otter Island, and landed the Otter Island working parties at Saint Helena village that night, near which place they were to get timber for the tower, there being none on Otter Island.

The party for Saint Helena Island were also landed there, and on the morning of the 13th, having been out during the night to find timber and see the spot for the Saint Helena tower, I took the parties to their places, and they commenced getting out timber.

The next two days were consumed in getting parties rationed and at work, and then all was going on well.

On the 3d of November it was thought that the towers were far enough advanced to commence practicing from them. I opened communication that day between Otter and Saint Helena Islands. I could not see Hilton Head from Saint Helena tower, so I arranged a plan of rocket signals to get the line. I went to Hilton Head and tried it; saw the rockets and marked the line. I also tried the same plan between Botany Bay and Otter Islands, and found and marked the lines, but could not see the towers, they not having reached the necessary height.

On the 7th, I sent for and stationed officers with flagmen as follows: At Botany Bay, Lieutenants Bruyn and Morrill; at Otter Island, Lieutenant Weber; at Saint Helena Island, Lieutenants Hatfield and Stroop.

I went to Hilton Head on the 7th and remained until the 9th, endeavoring to open communication with Saint Helena tower but unsuccessfully. It having been reported that the Botany Bay tower was seen from Otter Island, I directed the engineers to build no higher, but finish those two towers the height they then were. I then went to Saint Helena tower, and finding it 126 feet high, and that from the top of it only the tops of the highest masts at Hilton Head could be seen, I decided to have that no higher, as it could not be carried high enough to see without a tower at Hilton Head, but to select a point from which communication with Hilton Head

could be had, and connect that with the tower by a line of signal telegraph wire. So on the 13th, having been delayed until then by bad weather, I visited a plantation called Sea Side, about 5 miles from the tower, and opened communication with the Head. I found that there was much difficulty often in communicating over this stretch, as both stations were so low as to bring the line through all the smoke of the river and the vapors arising from the marsh, though this station could be seen from the tower, and obviated the necessity of any wire.

The 14th and 15th, I tried all day and night to communicate, but got nothing through, nor any satisfactory replies, it being so smoky as to make reading almost impossible. On the 16th, I tried and got answer that "Otter Island could not see Botany Bay," as the tower, he thought, was not high enough. I visited Otter Island and could see nothing of the tower. I gave directions to have the tower on Otter Island raised 20 feet, and on Botany Bay 14 feet, making each 140 feet high.

I sent orders to Lieutenant Hawkins to go to Kiawah Island, to have a temporary station built there, the smoke of the camp-fires preventing communication from Botany Bay.

Finding it so difficult to communicate with Sea Side from Hilton Head, I decided to make a new station, and accordingly made one at Dr. Lawrence's place, called Luccaneauagh, 3 miles nearer Hilton Head. This not being visible from the tower on Saint Helena, I ran a line of wire over 7 miles to connect the two stations, and thus secured perfect communication as far as Otter Island. I then thought the only difficulty lay between Otter Island and Botany Bay, and on the 20th, the towers having been completed to the height directed and not being in communication, I decided to make an intermediate station to open communication, and afterward find out the cause of the difficulty.

On the 21st, at daylight, I started with a party from Otter Island to visit Edingsville and locate a station. When we got outside the bar it was blowing almost a gale, and as our landing would have to be made through the surf on the beach, it was considered impossible to land with the means we had, and we returned.

Sergeant Otis went in a small boat inland to see if a place could be found from which both towers could be seen. Captain Dutch, of the U. S. bark Kingfisher, volunteered to go with him as pilot, being well acquainted with the country from frequent scouts he has made there and above there. Mean time I went to examine into and remove some difficulty in working the wire on Saint Helena Island. Returned to Otter Island on the 22d, and learned from Sergeant Otis that he had found a place on Big Bay Island from which he could see both towers; so I again made arrangements to start at daylight to build a station there. During the night a heavy gale commenced, and continued so as to prevent our going outside Saint Helena Bar until the night of the 24th, when it abated.

On the 25th, at daylight, I got the party, consisting of 6 engineers and 15 infantry for fatigue duty, on board and started, reaching Big Bay Island, in South Edisto Inlet, at noon, when we disembarked. I examined the spot selected by Sergeant Otis, but did not like its location.

The island was entirely unoccupied and we could find no tracks of man or horse upon it; it is covered with a dense and almost impenetrable undergrowth; there is a long and high range of sand-

hills near the beach ; the rear of the island is marshy and is divided from Edisto by a creek. A causeway which once connected it with Edisto had been destroyed, and it had not probably been visited for months.

I selected a sand-hill over 20 feet high at Bay Point, and estimated that a tower upon it 35 feet high would communicate with both stations, so I directed the engineers to build such an one.

There was a great quantity of lumber obtainable from a small fort (never finished) built by the rebels before our capture of Port Royal. The fort was lined throughout and floored with planks ; even the traverses faced with planks, and a quantity unused lay outside. The frame was made that afternoon, and at night the party was taken on board the steamer, as we had no force for pickets.

We again disembarked at daylight on the 26th, and I sent the steamer to Botany Bay to bring down Lieutenant Morrill to take charge of the new station. The steamer returned at 2 p. m., and at that time the station was finished—a perfect little tower, made in ten working hours, and from it I could see all of Otter Island and about 40 feet of Botany Bay tower. Lieutenant Morrill having no signal apparatus or supplies, I let him go to Hilton Head to obtain them, and on the 27th he started back from there, I having made arrangements with Captain Dutch, of the *Kingfisher*, to send a boat to Saint Helena village to take him to Big Bay Island. Mean time the Peconic went to Stono to get rations for the parties, and I remained at Hilton Head to communicate through.

Peconic returned November 30, and I went with her to Saint Helena village, where I found Lieutenant Morrill, it having been too rough for a boat to cross Saint Helena Sound. I took him on board and stopped at Otter Island, and took a detachment from Lieutenant Jones' party of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, and landed them at Big Bay Island on the 1st of December, and left Lieutenant Morrill calling Botany Bay, and returned to Hilton Head to open communication through, if possible. On arriving at Hilton Head on the 2d, I found that my orders for having a station built on Kiawah had not been executed. I then sent an order to Lieutenant Hawkins to go to Kiawah and have a platform made sufficient to work from, and remain there. I went to Saint Helena tower, and tested line thoroughly to Hilton Head and to Botany Bay, and found that it was all working well. On the 3d, I left Saint Helena village on Peconic, and stopped at all stations, and on the 4th, landed on Kiawah, and found the station there not what was wanted, but so it would work part of the time. As headquarters could not be seen from Kiawah for want of sufficient elevation, I put an officer at lower end of Folly Island. From this date until the 8th, I tried constantly to work through but found great difficulty on account of the Kiawah station being too far from Botany Bay for so low a station. I did get some messages through, but not satisfactorily, so I went over and selected a place 2 miles nearer Botany Bay. I had a new station built there 30 feet high. This station was finished on the 12th, and communication was opened through, and I reported to the major-general commanding that the line was ready for duty. He sent a message to General Seymour, at Hilton Head, and as General Seymour did not reply for some hours, the reply started just at night and a fog prevented its getting through until next day.

The line continued to work well with this exception, that during cold weather it is a general occurrence that after sundown the con-



densation of atmosphere makes a fog so thick as to prevent communication over a mile. This difficulty becomes less as the cold weather passes away, and will entirely disappear very soon. My plan was to work from Hilton Head to Otter Island with only one intermediate station, and from Otter Island to Botany Bay with none.

It will be necessary to keep a station on Kiawah, as so much smoke arises from camps there and on Folly Island as to render it impossible to see a station on Folly Island from there.

I think a station between Otter and Botany Bay Islands will not be necessary after the winter is passed. We now communicate often from Botany Bay to Otter Island direct, but only in clear weather. When smoky they cannot communicate, but I think in the spring there will be few days when we cannot communicate well.

My experience has suggested the following improvements, which, with the consent of the major-general commanding, I shall carry into execution :

First. To build the station at headquarters about 20 feet higher, which will make direct communication with Kiawah and save one repetition of messages.

Second. To move station at Big Bay to near Edingsville, which will divide the distance more equally between Botany Bay and Otter Islands and enable them to use smaller flags and work more rapidly.

The station on Saint Helena Island is built badly and proves to be in the wrong place. By Colonel Serrell's advice I took that place, he considering it to be on the best location and right for distance, and as it had there large trees so growing as to make three corners of the tower, which he thought would save much time in building. The result shows that it took longer to build, is insecure after completion, and is about 3 miles out of the way.

I think a tower at Hilton Head would enable us to communicate with the present one on Saint Helena most of the time, but with a tower at Hilton Head and one at Saint Helena much smaller than the present one, located 3 miles nearly due south (say 10 degrees west of south) of it, would make communication easy and certain.

It now takes about thirty minutes, under ordinary circumstances, to transmit a message of ten words from headquarters to Hilton Head, but with those improvements the time would be reduced to twenty, or perhaps fifteen, minutes, and it would relieve for other duty 2 officers and 12 men, and dispense with the use of 8 miles of wire, with the operators and men to keep it in repair.

There were many unforeseen and unavoidable delays and difficulties to overcome, which were entirely new, but I think the success of the communication is no longer doubtful. There appears to be a wide discrepancy between the distances marked on the chart by which I arranged my plan and the actual distances.

Lieut. Frank L. Morrill, Third New Hampshire Volunteers, and acting signal officer, deserves mention for the efficiency displayed by him in working the station at Big Bay Island. He remained there six weeks alone, his men imperfectly armed, and without a boat, depending solely on fighting if attacked, no matter by what numbers, and picketed by a force from the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts, whom he frequently found asleep on post, and passed in the night repeatedly without being challenged by the picket. Certainly he has not been molested, but it required some nerve to take a station so undefended and practically in the enemy's country, and make it conspicuous by signals, so as to tempt the enemy to attack it.

Captain Dutch, of the U. S. bark Kingfisher, lying at Otter Island, and his executive officer, Mr. Rhoades, rendered great service in the construction of the tower on Otter Island by sending men on shore to assist, and furnishing means and appliances when needed. Mr. Rhoades several times went on shore with a party of sailors to assist in hoisting and securing timbers and getting material ashore. Captain Dutch also furnished us a pilot for the inland waters.

I have the honor to transmit herewith a map showing the route of the line, and indicating the points at which stations are worked.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANKLIN E. TOWN,

*First Lieut., 42d N. Y. Vols., Chief Signal Officer, D. S.*

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DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,  
*Folly Island, S. C., January 16, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,

*Commanding Northern District, Dept. of the South :*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to inform you that his headquarters are this day transferred to Hilton Head, where they will be for the present located.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,  
*New Orleans, January 21, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. ASBOTH,

*Commanding District of West Florida, Pensacola Bay :*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 10th instant, giving information concerning the movements and condition of the enemy in your vicinity and of the expedition started by you under Captain Smalley, has been received and submitted to the commanding general of the department.

I am instructed to thank you for your activity, and to inform you that the commanding general regrets his inability to re-enforce you at present, as other movements of importance require all the available force at his command. As soon as practicable, sufficient force to accomplish the desired results will be sent there.

Only a few horses can be sent to you now—some 30 or 40—and were more on hand disposable, forage for them could not be sent, as our supplies are very limited.

The quartermaster's department has a standing order to furnish you with at least one steamer, two, if possible; but up to this time, on account of movements on the Texas and Louisiana coast, and the destruction of some and disabling of other vessels, it has been impracticable to fill the orders upon that department for steamer transports. The necessity you are under is appreciated and the impracticability of supplying you regretted by the commanding general. Until such time as horses can be furnished you you can be organizing and drilling and disciplining your recruits, who will thus

become soldiers and accustomed to discipline before mounting. The delay in furnishing horses will not be great. You are requested to use great care in the selection and recommendation of officers for the new corps.

Frequent irregularities in the Fourteenth Regiment, Corps d'Afrique, have been noticed of late in the correspondence passing through these headquarters. You are requested to call the attention of the colonel of that regiment to the apparent want of care and system in the administration of his command.

Very respectfully, I am, general, your obedient servant,

CHAS. P. STONE.

*Brigadier-General, Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS,  
*Key West, Fla., January 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE,

*Chief of Staff, Department of the Gulf, New Orleans, La. :*

GENERAL : On the 23d ultimo I informed you that a small detachment, 35 persons in all, had been placed on an island in Charlotte Harbor, forming a nucleus around which it was hoped refugees would begin to cluster. So far very little success has attended the enterprise. Six refugees only have enlisted since the detachment reached Charlotte Harbor, and 6 recruits availed themselves of the first opportunity to desert. One of these deserters, calling himself Zachariah Brown, came to this place some months ago from Middle Florida, made loud pretenses to Union principles, enlisted in the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania, and served some time at Fort Taylor.

On the 25th of December, Lieutenant Meyers, in charge of the detachment at Charlotte Harbor, sent out a scouting party of 15 men, under Daniels, a guide, to obtain information and make observations on the mainland. Captain Baxter, commanding the U. S. gunboat *Gem of the Sea*, furnished three boats for the use of this party, and 15 seamen, under Ensign Jenks, to man the boats. The party landed on the north side of Pease Creek, not far from its mouth; the seamen remained to guard the boats. Daniels conducted his men over the country until the night of the 28th, when all the men placed on guard deserted. Daniels immediately changed his camp, and began next morning to return to the boats. At daylight on the morning of the 30th he had got near enough to hear the sound of musketry, which indicated an attack upon the boats. Ensign Jenks and the seamen seem to have behaved with great gallantry. Attacked, as he supposed, by about 40 men, Mr. Jenks retired slowly, and succeeded in bringing off all his men with no other casualty than 1 man wounded. Daniels, with 5 men, remained concealed until the 31st, when he was taken off by the boats. At a still later period 4 men of Daniels' party, who had been sent out on some special service, unable to find any boats or any means of return, traveled up the country along the north bank of Pease Creek, until they came across a small schooner loaded with  $4\frac{1}{2}$  bales of cotton. Of this they boldly took possession and succeeded in delivering their capture and 2 prisoners to Captain Baxter.

On the 7th instant, I placed one company of the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania in charge of Fort Myers, on the south side of the



Caloosahatchee, about 12 miles from its mouth and 150 miles from this place, and soon afterward brought down the detachment of Charlotte Harbor to the same place. Three men were found at the fort and captured, viz, a Mr. Griffin, whose business it seemed to be to purchase from the Indians articles useful to the so-called Confederate States; Mr. Lewis, Indian agent and interpreter, and a third person. These men had made preparations to burn the buildings. This I anticipated, and directed an approach by night; so, being surprised, they were not able to execute their plan.

Fort Myers is too far south for any very effective operations, but it furnishes, I think, a secure lodgment for a small force, and refugees wishing to join us can reach the place by land. As to ulterior operations, two plans present themselves:

First. A movable attack upon the most assailable parts of the coast and adjacent land, tending to break up the coast guard, to facilitate the escape of slaves and refugees, and to destroy the salt-works and the places of marine trade too far in the interior to be reached by the blockading squadron. This will require, say, a force of 1,000 infantry and 200 cavalry, with steam-boats of light draught sufficient to carry it in a body from point to point.

The second plan includes the first, and adds the occupation of Tampa, and perhaps one or two other places farther north, and occasional movements into the interior with force sufficient to stop the cattle driving from Middle Florida and destroy the railroads. This will require, say, 4,000 infantry and 1,000 cavalry. It will be sufficient, I think, for the indicated purpose, unless the Confederates oppose it by a still larger, much larger force.

Rear-Admiral Bailey has shown the greatest disposition to assist our little military operations. In my recent trip to Charlotte Harbor he placed the steam gun-boat Honduras at my disposal, and directed Captain Baxter, commanding the three sail gun-boats at Charlotte Harbor, to keep himself in communication with Fort Myers and render all necessary assistance. Much assistance has already been rendered in carrying men and property.

I earnestly hope the commanding general will give me the means to undertake at least the first plan above mentioned.

Respectfully,

D. P. WOODBURY,  
*Brigadier-General.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, }	HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
No. 31. }	Hilton Head, S. C., January 28, 1864.
*        *        *	*        *        *

VIII. The brigade of Colonel Montgomery, consisting of the Second South Carolina, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, and Third U. S. Colored Troops, will proceed to Hilton Head and report to Brigadier-General Seymour. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

\*        \*        \*        \*        \*        \*

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore :

ED. W. SMITH,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Morris Island, S. C., January 31, 1864.*

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding the department, that 3 deserters from James Island entered our lines yesterday evening, and are now in charge of the provost-marshal. Their names are James Cummings, Patrick O'Neil, and Richard Crowley, late members of Company H, Twenty-seventh Regiment S. C. Volunteers, formerly known as the Charleston Battalion. They took a picket-boat near Battery Ryan, and following down the creek, landed in the marsh near Black Island, where they gave themselves up to our pickets. They are Irishmen, and were residents of South Carolina before the war broke out. I examined them separately, and their statements coincide remarkably well. There is great despondency and bad feeling among the rebel troops on James Island. Their company was composed of Irishmen, with the exception of 6, and with scarce an exception all are anxious to come within our lines. The discontent among the native South Carolinians is nearly as great as among the soldiers of foreign birth. For the last three months they have been much pinched for food, and there is but a very limited supply kept on hand on James Island. The soldiers receive hominy and about a quarter of a pound of beef for breakfast, a pint of rice and the same quantity of beef for dinner, and nothing for supper. They state that some of the officers are as anxious to quit the service as the privates. Sixteen men of their company had agreed to make the attempt to desert to us in a body last night. They state that our shells have done considerable damage in Charleston. The Mills House had been struck several times, and a number of rooms torn to pieces. On Christmas day two large cotton presses were burned. In Market street, near the corner of King, a tavern and a cutlery establishment have been destroyed. Most of the shells explode, but as yet few people have been injured by them. Charleston is depopulated, except by the very poorest class of people, and they have moved as far up town as they can get. Beauregard's headquarters and all the public offices have been removed to the upper part of the city. For a period of two days many of our shells fell very near Beauregard's quarters. The prices of everything are extravagantly high; rice, \$22 per bushel; bacon, \$4 per pound; corn, \$18 to \$20 per bushel.

These men have all served in turn in Sumter, and are able to give an intelligent account so far as they go. There is a permanent garrison in the fort of 300 men, made up by details of 100 men from each of the respective regiments around Charleston in turn. One-third of the garrison is changed every twelve days, and next Tuesday night, the 2d of February, is the time for relieving 100 of those now there. Cummings came off duty out of the fort only ten days ago, and appears to be the best informed on the subject. Since the last bombardment they have constructed three strong bomb-proofs, one on the city face, one on the Morris Island face, and another on the Sullivan's Island face. They are built of strong timber, covered with sand and the debris taken from the ruins of the fort. They intend, or are about making, a new sally-port on the Mount Pleasant face. Ten days ago there was one iron piece mounted on the city face and four small brass pieces on the bomb-proofs to use in

case of an assault. Cummings states that when he was last on duty there ten days ago, he saw four guns lying in the fort, which he was told were to be mounted in the casemates on the Sullivan's Island side. They looked like 24s or 32s. Many of the casemates are entirely crushed in, others are good. The men serving in Sumter get coffee. A moderate supply of hard bread is kept in the bomb-proofs. Occasionally fresh beef, cooked, is brought down from Charleston. The new iron-clad which has lately made her appearance is called the Charleston, and is built after the model of the Atlanta. One of these deserters, Crowley, states that he was in Battery Wagner when our troops assaulted it on the 18th of July, and that it was with great difficulty that the garrison could be kept from the bomb-proofs. They state that Colonel Shaw, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, was killed on the parapet, but there is difference of opinion as to where he was buried. They state that the colored soldiers who were captured were treated as prisoners of war, the same as the white soldiers.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. H. DAVIS,

Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Comdg. Post.

*Abstract from returns of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore commanding, for January, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters .....	68	71	140	148	.....	.....
Seymour's command .....	367	9,725	11,829	15,146	.....	12
Folly Island (Ames) .....	322	7,458	10,217	13,228	.....	20
Morris Island (Davis) .....	162	3,855	5,837	6,871	.....	4
Port Royal Island (Saxton) .....	80	2,151	3,079	3,707	24	4
Fernandina (Guss) .....	29	714	835	949	28	.....
Saint Augustine (Osborn) .....	39	987	1,300	1,482	18	.....
Total .....	1,067	24,961	33,297	41,531	70	40

*Troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1864.*

#### DISTRICT OF HILTON HEAD.

Brig. Gen. TRUMAN SEYMOUR.

<i>Post of Hilton Head.</i>	<i>Saint Helena Island.</i>
Col. REDFIELD DURYEE.	Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.
6th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Lorenzo Meeker.	7th Connecticut, Col. Joseph R. Hawley.
76th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John C. Campbell.	7th New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott.
1st New York Engineers, Company K, Capt. Henry L. Southard.	1st New York Engineers, Maj. James E. Place.
	Unorganized invalid corps, Capt. John H. Gould.



*Fort Pulaski, Ga.*

Maj. JAMES E. BAILEY.

3d Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Companies F, G, K, and L, Maj. James E. Bailey.

*Artillery Brigade.*

Capt. LOOMIS L. LANGDON.

3d Rhode Island Heavy, Company C, Capt. Martin S. James.

1st U. S., Battery B, Capt. Samuel S. Elder.

1st U. S., Battery M, Capt. Loomis L. Langdon.

*Barton's Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM B. BARTON.

47th New York, Col. Henry Moore.

48th New York, Lieut. Col. Dudley W. Strickland.

115th New York, Col. Simeon Sammon.

3d and 4th South Carolina (colored), Lieut. Col. Augustus G. Bennett.

*Howell's Brigade.*

Col. JOSHUA B. HOWELL.

39th Illinois, Col. Thomas O. Osborn.

62d Ohio, Col. Francis B. Pond.

67th Ohio, Maj. Lewis Butler.

85th Pennsylvania, Capt. Isaac M. Abraham.

8th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Charles W. Fribley.

*Montgomery's Brigade.*

Col. JAMES MONTGOMERY.

54th Massachusetts (colored), Col. Edward N. Hallowell.

2d South Carolina (colored), Lieut. Col. William W. Marple.

3d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Benjamin C. Tilghman.

*Cavalry.*

Col. GUY V. HENRY.

40th Massachusetts,\* Capt. Horatio Jenkins, jr.

Independent Battalion Massachusetts, Maj. Atherton H. Stevens, jr.

*NORTHERN DISTRICT.*

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. TERRY.

*FOLLY ISLAND.*

Brig. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.

*GORDON'S DIVISION.**First Brigade.*

Col. LEOPOLD VON GILSA.

41st New York, Lieut. Col. Detleo von Einsiedel.

54th New York, Lieut. Col. Bankson T. Morgan.

127th New York, Col. William Gurney.

142d New York, Lieut. Col. Albert M. Barney.

74th Pennsylvania, Col. Adolph von Hartung.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM H. NOBLE.

17th Connecticut, Capt. Enos Kellogg.

144th New York, Lieut. Col. James Lewis.

157th New York, Col. Philip P. Brown, jr.

75th Ohio, Col. Andrew L. Harris.

107th Ohio, Col. Seraphim Meyer.

\*Mounted infantry.

## VOGDES' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT S. FOSTER.

*First Brigade.*

Col. JEREMIAH C. DRAKE.

13th Indiana, Maj. John C. Burton.  
 112th New York, Capt. William H.  
 Chaddock.  
 169th New York, Major Alonzo Alden.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. SAMUEL M. ALFORD.

3d New York, Lieut. Col. Eldridge G.  
 Floyd.  
 89th New York, Lieut. Col. Theophilus  
 L. England.  
 103d New York, Lieut. Col. Andrew  
 Wettstein.  
 117th New York, Maj. Rufus Daggett.

*Third Brigade (colored).*

Col. JAMES C. BEECHER.

55th Massachusetts, Col. Alfred S. Hart-  
 well.  
 1st North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William  
 N. Reed.

*Unattached.*

1st Connecticut Battery, Capt. Alfred P.  
 Rockwell.  
 3d Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Com-  
 pany A, Capt. William H. Ham-  
 ner.

*Light Artillery Battalion.*

Capt. JOHN HAMILTON.

3d New York Light, Battery F, Capt. Samuel C. Day.  
 3d U. S., Battery E, Capt. John Hamilton.

## MORRIS ISLAND.

Col. WILLIAM W. H. DAVIS.

*First Brigade.\**

Col. HARRIS M. PLAISTED.

9th Maine,† Col. Sabine Emery.  
 11th Maine, Lieut. Col. Winslow P. Spof-  
 ford.  
 3d New Hampshire, Col. John H.  
 Jackson.  
 4th New Hampshire, Col. Louis Bell.

*Second Brigade.\**

Col. HENRY M. HOYT.

100th New York, Maj. Daniel D. Nash.  
 52d Pennsylvania, Maj. Thomas B.  
 Jayne.  
 104th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Thomp-  
 son D. Hart.

*Unattached.*

3d Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, 2d Battalion, Capt. Augustus W. Colwell.  
 3d New York Light Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. Edward A. Wildt.  
 1st New York Engineers, Company F, Lieut. Charles B. Parsons.

## PORT ROYAL ISLAND.

Brig. Gen. RUFUS SANTON.

8th Maine, Col. John D. Rust.  
 56th New York, Capt. Eliphas Smith.  
 55th Pennsylvania (detachment), Capt. James S. Nesbit.  
 1st South Carolina (colored), Col. Thomas W. Higginson.  
 1st U. S. Artillery, Battery D, Lieut. John S. Gibbs.

\* Of First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

† At Black Island.

*FERNANDINA, FLA.*

Col. HENRY R. GUSS.

97th Pennsylvania, Col. Henry R. Guss.

*SAINT AUGUSTINE, FLA.*

Col. FRANCIS A. OSBORN.

10th Connecticut, Col. John L. Otis.

24th Massachusetts, Maj. Charles H. Hooper.

[JANUARY 31-JUNE 30, 1864.—For troops of the Department of the Gulf serving in Florida, see Vol. XXXIV, Part II, pp. 199, 470, 808; Part III, p. 370, and Part IV, pp. 154, 610, 618, 619.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Morris Island, S. C., February 1, 1864.*

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, more fully than I was able to by telegram, that the rebel troops around Charleston are breaking camp. On Saturday, January 30, a regiment which had been for a long time encamped near Mount Pleasant, on the mainland, struck their tents and marched away from that locality. They evidently did not merely change camp for another location in that neighborhood or we should be able to discover their tents with our strong glasses. Yesterday, one if not two regiments left James Island. They were encamped between Secessionville and Charleston, about a mile from the former. A portion of them were in huts, which were set on fire by accident or design and created a large conflagration. From the location of the troops given by deserters who came into my lines the day before yesterday, the Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers occupied the huts which were burned yesterday and were evidently a portion of the troops which left James Island yesterday afternoon. These facts are communicated for the information of the major-general commanding the department.

I send herewith inclosed a Charleston newspaper of Saturday, the 30th ultimo.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
W. W. H. DAVIS,  
*Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Comdg. Post.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Morris Island, S. C., February 4, 1864.*

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the major-general commanding the department, the following facts, which I obtained from William Flynn, a citizen of Charleston, and one of a party of 8 picked up last night by one of the naval boats in the outer harbor. He is a carpenter by trade, and for some length of



time has been working in the Engineer Department of the rebel Army. He has never been in their military service. He states that there are two regiments on Sullivan's Island, one of which is commanded by Colonel Keitt, but does not know the name of the commander of the other. Col. Alfred Rhett commands the artillery on Sullivan's Island, James Island, &c. General Ripley is in command at Mount Pleasant. There are three brigades on James Island, viz, Hagood's, Wise's, and Colquitt's. Walker is in command at Pocotaligo, with not a very heavy force. An attack is expected at Savannah, whither General Beauregard and staff have gone to look after matters. He says if our guns be trained on the steeple of the church on Citadel Green, or a little to the right of it, from Morris Island, our shells will be likely to make Beauregard's quarters a very uncomfortable dwelling-place. I have caused them to be pointed in that direction. Our shells are now thrown too far toward Ashley River and many of them fall in the burnt district. The church spire alluded to is the tallest one toward the east and is painted brown. Few people have been killed, but many houses ruined. The other day a shell burst on the deck of their new ram, without doing her damage. Last Sunday night a shell went through the roof of a house, struck a chair at the foot of a bed in which a man and his wife were sleeping, and passed into the cellar without injuring either of them. Another shell struck a house in Calhoun street, went through the bed between a negro and his wife, and thence passed into the cellar, leaving both uninjured.

He enumerates the following guns in position in the city: The "big gun" is mounted on Frazer's Wharf, next to the new custom-house. It is a 13-inch, is rifled, and the projectile weighs 700 pounds. It was cast in England. At White Point Garden, otherwise the Battery, are mounted four guns, viz, one 11-inch rifled, from the Keokuk, two 6-inch rifled, and one 10-inch; at the foot of Laurens street, two 8-inch columbiads and one 6-inch rifled; Half-Moon Battery, near the gas-house, about the foot of Calhoun street, two heavy guns; and two 10-inch columbiads at Chisolm's rice mills, foot of Tradd street, on Ashley River.

Everybody has left the city except the very poor people who cannot get away. All the necessaries of life are extravagantly high; flour from \$130 to \$150 per barrel; men's shoes, \$150 per pair; men's calf-skin boots, \$250 per pair. Rebel money has depreciated until it is worth only \$22 for \$1 in gold and \$18 for \$1 in silver. He states there is one wealthy Union man in Charleston who has expended a good deal of money quietly for the comfort of our prisoners. The remaining population are Union at heart. The city is garrisoned by one regiment of conscripts. The rebels are building three new iron-clads, one of which is 200 feet long, plated with 4-inch iron, and the others are the size of the Chicora.

They have put up three strong bomb-proofs in Sumter since the first bombardment. The garrison consists of not less than 300 or 400 men, but he does not know when they are relieved. Colonel Elliott still commands the fort. Hand grenades are ready on the parapet to throw down on an assaulting party, and the wharf is mined. They have made a "frise" to put out at night and take in before daylight. When they are being shelled cooked rations are taken down from Charleston in the night for the garrison. In Sumter there are three guns mounted in the lower casemates toward Sullivan's Island.

The steamer which attempted to run in on the night of the 1st was the Presto, from Nassau, New Providence, loaded with blankets, shoes, and salt beef. She got aground on the old wreck between Beauregard and Moultrie, between 11 and 12 o'clock. The engineer told my informant that there are five or six steamers to run this blockade, of which this is the first. They come here because they consider it easier to enter Charleston than Wilmington.

The rebels expect an attack upon Mobile soon. He states that the negroes captured in Wagner on the 18th of July were not treated with cruelty; he saw them in Charleston. Torpedoes are sunk in the channel to blow up our vessels should they attempt to go in. There are two old boilers, one of which contains 3,000 pounds of powder, sunk in the harbor, and are arranged to be exploded from on shore by means of a wire.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. H. DAVIS,

*Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Comd'g. Post.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,

*Hilton Head, S. C., February 6, 1864.*

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY,

*Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: In compliance with telegram of the 26th instant, received per steamer transport Fulton, I have the honor to subjoin the numbers of re-enlistments in the department that date, and also for the week ending 2d instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

*Re-enlistments in the Department of the South to January 26, 1864.*

Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers, 205; First Connecticut Battery, 45; Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, 331; Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, 200; Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, 11; Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, 427; Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteers, 507; total, 1,726.

*From January 26 to February 2, 1864.*

Forty-seventh New York Volunteers, 108; Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, 291; Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, 12; Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, 331; Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, 287; total to February 2, 1864, 2,755.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,

*Folly Island, S. C., February 6, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff, &c., Hilton Head, S. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of instructions from the major-general commanding to send General Schimmelfennig, with a force of 3,000 or 4,000 men, to make an armed

reconnaissance upon John's Island, in such a manner as to alarm the enemy for the safety of the railroad near Rantowles Bridge, and thus draw his attention away from the point to which the expedition of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour is directed.

In obedience to these instructions I have directed Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig to commence getting his men over to Kiawah Island to night, and I shall hurry forward his preparations as rapidly as possible. I now ask for more definite and precise instructions. In those which I have received I am not informed when the commanding general desires this demonstration to be made, nor during what length of time it should last, and knowing nothing of the character of the movement which this is designed to be in aid of, I am unable to form any opinion of my own in regard to it. In this uncertainty I might commence too soon to have my movement be of advantage, and I might commence it at the right moment but discontinue it so soon as to have no good result, or continue it beyond the period during which it could be of service, and thus unnecessarily expose my men, or I might be altogether too late. The element of time is entirely omitted from my instructions, and I most respectfully ask that it may be supplied. Meanwhile, and until I can receive an answer to this communication, no delay in preparation will occur.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 7, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. ALEX. SCHIMMELFENNIG, U. S. Volunteers,  
*Commanding U. S. Forces, Folly Island, S. C.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to state that instructions have been received from department headquarters to the effect that Hamilton's battery and Colonel Beecher's brigade will be ordered to Hilton Head, to report to Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, as soon as transportation can be provided.

I am further directed to request that you will notify the commanding officers of these troops to be in readiness to embark at the shortest possible notice, with three days' cooked rations and five days' subsistence.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 7, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER,  
*Commanding Division:*

GENERAL: General Schimmelfennig has been ordered on an expedition which will last a few days, and the command of Folly Island will therefore devolve on you in his absence. You will send 1,000



men from your command on this expedition (General Terry suggested Colonel Alford's brigade). The men will be provided with three days' rations from to-morrow (8th, 9th, and 10th instant), 40 rounds of ammunition in cartridge-boxes and 40 in knapsacks, their overcoats, one blanket and a rubber blanket, and one extra pair of socks. They will be ready to embark at 12 to-night at the wharf at Stono Landing. Horses and ambulance will be at the landing at 8 p. m. There will be sent with each 100 men three axes and three spades. The command will also take with it one ambulance, stretchers and stretcher-bearers, and signal flags and lights, if they can be had. An officer of General Schimmelfennig's staff will conduct the brigade to the place of rendezvous upon their arrival at Kiawah. The commanding officers of brigades and of regiments will be held responsible for all unnecessary noise. No fires will be kindled and no signals sounded until the enemy has been attacked.

I am, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

H. B. SCOTT,

*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 7, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,  
*Commanding Brigade:*

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you have your command at the wharf at south end of Folly Island to-night at 9 p. m., prepared to join in an expedition to be commanded by Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig.

The men will be prepared with three days' rations, commencing to-morrow (the 8th, 9th, and 10th instant), 40 rounds ammunition in cartridge-boxes and 40 in knapsacks, their overcoats, blanket and rubber blanket, and an extra pair of socks. There will be with each 100 men three axes and three spades; an ambulance, stretchers and stretcher-bearers will be taken, also signal flags and lights, if they can be had. The horses and ambulance will be at the wharf at 8 p. m. On landing at Kiawah, a staff officer from General Schimmelfennig will conduct the command to its appointed place. Commanding officers of brigades and regiments will be responsible for all unnecessary noise. No fires will be kindled and no signals sounded until the enemy has been attacked.

I am, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

H. B. SCOTT,

*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF PENSACOLA,  
*Barrancas, Fla., February 8, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE,  
*Chief of Staff, Hdqrs. Dept. of the Gulf:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report of January 29, No. 46, in regard to rebel affairs in my neigh-

borhood, the following additional information received from refugees and my own agents :

Major-General Maury and Admiral Buchanan are still the commanding officers at Mobile ; Commodore Farrand is the second naval commander. Several thousand negroes are continually working on the fortifications, which are nearly completed from the old light-house to the terminus of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, close to the city, inside the swamps and Three-Mile Creek. Five thousand troops were transported to Mobile in the last three weeks from Johnston's army.

The garrison at Fort Morgan, 1,000 strong, had laid down their arms, but were induced by General Maury to take them up again. Provisions are very scarce at Mobile, but ammunition plenty, as two Government steamers ran in three weeks ago loaded with ammunition. Prices of everything very high.

The spirit of the people broken, but the officers determined to defend the city to the last. The Mobile and Montgomery Railroad is guarded only by small squads of 12 to 15 men at its terminus on the Tensas River, and the crossings at Dyer's and Bushy Creeks and Perdido and Escambia Rivers.

There is a battalion of Florida cavalry at Marianna, Jackson County, inclined to desert, but controlled by three companies of cavalry, under command of Floyd, Gettis, and Robinson, from 60 to 80 strong, moving continually in Washington and Walton Counties, in the vicinity of the Choctawhatchee Bay and River, and hunting deserters with bloodhounds which have torn to pieces several women and children, creating general indignation among the people.

I have a small expedition on two schooners at the head of the bay, and a company of infantry encamped at Washington Point. Washington County. Enlistments in the First Florida Cavalry still continue, although the inability to pay the recruits the advance bounty has a tendency to check it. The total number of cavalry recruits is 207, and 30 more are already announced on their way down the Santa Rosa Sound.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 8, 1864.*

Col. W. W. H. DAVIS,

*104th Pa. Vols., Comdg. U. S. Forces, Morris Island, S. C. :*

COLONEL : The brigadier-general commanding directs me to request that you will as soon as practicable relieve the Ninth Maine Volunteers from duty upon Black Island, replacing them by some other regiment from your command. The Ninth Maine Volunteers will be held in readiness for embarkation to Hilton Head in time to proceed to the North by the next mail steamer.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, D. C., February 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Commanding Department of the South :*

GENERAL : By a statement prepared in this office there appears to have been employed by the quartermaster's department in the Department of the South, during the month of November, 1863 :

	Tons.
Steamers with an aggregate tonnage of .....	16,835
Sailing vessels with an aggregate tonnage of .....	5,544
Total .....	22,379

The number of troops in the Department of the South, I am informed at headquarters, was in November, 1863, 37,542, being about eleven-nineteenths ton to a man.

This appears to be more than can be necessary for the ordinary transportation of such a force. Cannot this immense expenditure be reduced with safety ? The Government suffers under this drain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,  
*Quartermaster-General.*

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., February 9, 1864.

Colonel ABBOTT,  
*Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers :*

COLONEL : The major-general commanding directs that you proceed at once with your regiment and report to Brig. Gen. T. Seymour.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

ON BOARD STEAMER BEN DE FORD,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 10, 1864.*

Rear-Admiral J. A. DAHLGREN,  
*Comdg. S. Atlantic Blockading Squadron, Saint John's River :*

ADMIRAL : I received, some miles from here, your letter stating that you intended to leave this locality, and that three gun-boats would remain in the Saint John's. That force is ample. The enemy will not make any resistance in East Florida for the present. They are panic-stricken.

My advance will be 50 miles from this place to-night. We have taken eight good field pieces well supplied with ammunition, a number of cars, a large quantity of cotton, and other valuable property. I am very busy, or I would come and see you. I shall return to Hilton Head Saturday next.

Please accept my thanks for prompt co-operation afforded me, and believe me, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General.*



SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,  
 No. 36. } *New Orleans, February 10, 1864.*

\* \* \* \* \*

11. By direction of the President of the United States Maj. John Hay, assistant adjutant-general, is authorized to receive the signatures of loyal citizens to the oath of allegiance of December 8, 1863, at Key West, Tortugas, and at such other places in the State of Florida, and embraced within the limits of the Department of the Gulf, as he may think proper, and he is further authorized to issue to all persons who may sign the said oath the certificates intrusted to him by the President. The commanding officers concerned will give him all necessary and proper aid and assistance, so far as lies in their power.

\* \* \* \* \*

By command of Major-General Banks:

RICHD. B. IRWIN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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JACKSONVILLE, FLA.,  
*Steamer Ben De Ford, February 10, 1864.*

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR,  
*Commanding Advance:*

GENERAL: I expect a locomotive to-morrow, which will probably be in working order by next Sunday. You need be under no apprehensions about provisions. I shall use three or four companies of Colonel Montgomery's (Second South Carolina) regiment as scouts up the river for two or three days. You will push forward as far as you can toward the Suwannee River. Three companies of engineers have been ordered to Baldwin, where Lieutenant Michie will commence some defensive works at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *February 10, 1864.*

Maj. JAMES E. PLACE:

The major-general commanding directs that you send at once two companies from your command to Baldwin, under command of Capt. Joseph Walker, to report to Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, at or near that place. Take camp and garrison equipage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. T. SEYMOUR,  
*Commanding U. S. Advance Forces, Baldwin, Fla.:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that your dispatches to himself and also to Colonel Hallowell have been received and carried into effect.

Four companies have been ordered to Camp Finegan, and the Eighth U. S. Colored Regiment has been ordered to take post at Ten-Mile Station (Pickett's house).

The orderly bearing this has orders to start from here to-morrow at daybreak.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 11, 1864.*

Capt. JOHN HAMILTON,  
*Light Battery E, Third U. S. Artillery:*

CAPTAIN: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to request that you will embark two sections of your battery upon the steam-boat Boston, now at Pawnee Landing, and proceed without delay to Jacksonville, Fla., reporting at that place to Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, as directed by paragraph XII of Special Orders, No. 45, current series, from headquarters Department of the South. The remaining section will follow as soon as transportation arrives.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *February 11, 1864.*

Col. JAMES MONTGOMERY,  
*Commanding Colored Brigade:*

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you send the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers at once to Baldwin, with two days' rations, except two companies to be stationed at Jacksonville under command of Col. E. N. Hallowell, post commander.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *February 11, 1864.*

Col. JAMES MONTGOMERY,  
*Second South Carolina Volunteers:*

COLONEL: You will take three companies of your regiment and proceed forthwith to Doctor's Lake or Green Cove, two crossing places on the west bank of Saint John's River, or some point in that vicinity, where rebel pickets are said to be posted, which you will endeavor to capture. Failing or succeeding in this, you will at once return, or, remaining there, send information in relation to your movements to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

U. S. FLAG-SHIP PAWNEE,  
*Saint John's River, Fla., February 12, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,

*Comdg. Dept. of the South, Jacksonville, Fla.:*

GENERAL: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication\* of the 10th instant, and assure you that I had no intention of causing you the least surprise, for the case seemed to me too plain to admit of question, supposing, of course, that I was rightly informed. The premises which have controlled your views differ widely, however, from the report made to me, a copy of which is inclosed herewith. It is a plain narrative and from it you will perceive:

First. That a gun-boat reached the town before the troops landed there on Sunday, the 7th, and proceeded to the creek above on the evening of the same day, in pursuance of orders of the 6th, to prevent the escape of the Saint Mary's therefrom, at which time no troops had left Jacksonville, except a few cavalry to keep off the pickets that had been driven out.

Second. It is stated that the Saint Mary's, on hearing of the arrival of the troops, was preparing to leave the creek and escape up the Saint John's, but finding that she was blockaded by the Norwich returned.

Third. I believe also that the troops did not advance in force before Monday, the 9th, and have not yet been within 3 miles of Cedar Creek. Of this I am not positively informed; you are.

It is evident from the locality and the circumstances that no movement into the interior by your troops could have effected the capture of the Saint Mary's by the army, or caused the rebels to destroy her. She could not by any possibility, therefore, be your prize, whereas one gun-boat did actually prevent her escape, and with the other gun-boats would have captured or destroyed her, even if you had not sent a man into the interior.

While, therefore, I wish not to be understood as undervaluing the due effect of the result produced by your landing troops in Jacksonville, I do believe that the operations by water were much more material to our possession of the Saint Mary's.

I will insist on whatever may be due to the navy, but there is not the least disposition with me to detract from the army. In my view the Saint Mary's is a capture of the joint operation, and as there is both a propriety and convenience in assigning to each branch such property of the rebels, for public use, as may fall into our hands, according to the nature of such property and its obvious uses, no rule could be more conducive to the public interest than to let the navy have whatever may belong to the water and the army whatever may belong ashore. For these reasons I claim the Saint Mary's, and hope you will concur with me in the above views.

At the same time, if you do not, permit me to suggest that it would be advisable to raise the vessel before raising any question as to her use by the navy or army.

Finally, if we are unable to concur as to the disposition of the Saint Mary's, a reference to higher authorities should only be made after having agreed on the facts.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. DAHLGREN,

*Rear-Admiral, Comdg. South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.*

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\* Not found.



[Inclosure.]

U. S. STEAMER NORWICH,  
*Off Jacksonville, Fla., February 11, 1864.*

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN, .

*Comdg. South Atlantic Blockading Squadron:*

SIR: In obedience to your order I have the honor to make the following report:

While getting under way on the morning of the 6th instant, at 5.40, a steamer was reported in sight to the northward. At 5.45 she came up, and upon being hailed, reported as the army steamer Island City, with Major Brooks, of General Gillmore's staff, on board, from Fernandina, bound to Saint John's in a hurry. I told the captain to follow me in. At 5.50 got under way, stood to the southward to bring the ranges on, and at 6.20 crossed the bar. At 7.05 anchored in the Saint John's River, off Mayport. The Island City anchored a few minutes sooner. After breakfast I visited the Ottawa, and then first learned of an expedition to arrive that day for the purpose of taking Jacksonville, &c. In company with Captain Breese I met Major Brooks on shore. Captain Breese proposed that pickets should be stationed so as to prevent news of the expedition being carried inland by the people on shore. At 9.30, by order of Captain Breese, an officer and 2 men, armed, were sent on shore from this ship to do picket duty on the Mayport side of the river. Captain Breese proposed to send the Norwich up the river at once to blockade the Saint Mary's, in McGirt's Creek, should she attempt to escape up the river. Major Brooks opposed such a movement, as he thought it might interfere with the plans of the general. Major Brooks hired 4 men, refugees, to go inland on Saturday night to cut the telegraph wire and burn a railroad bridge. He asked for arms, rations, and a quantity of spirits of turpentine, which were furnished by the Ottawa and Norwich. At 6.30 the Island City, with the 4 men on board and a canoe in tow, proceeded up the river to Trout Creek. At 6.45 sent a picket-boat up the river as usual. At 9.15 the Island City came down the river and anchored.

At daylight on the morning of the 7th, two vessels were seen off the bar. At 6.20 the Ottawa made signals to this ship to send pilots outside; executed at once. Between 7.30 and 8 o'clock three transports came in and anchored. At 8.50 the Maple Leaf, with a general on board, came in and anchored. At about 9.15 I visited the Ottawa and met General Seymour on board that vessel. It was arranged that the Norwich should proceed up the river some distance ahead of the transports. My orders were as follows, given verbally by Captain Breese: Furnish the Maple Leaf with a pilot; then get under way; proceed up the river to Mr. Palmer's place; communicate with Mr. Palmer and learn from him what force is in Jacksonville. If a force has been thrown into town to oppose the landing inform the general. After a landing should be effected by our troops proceed up the river and anchor off the mouth of McGirt's Creek to prevent the Saint Mary's from escaping up the river.

At 10.10 got under way and proceeded up the river. When about 6 miles up the river saw the transports under way coming up. At 2.05 p. m. stopped off Mr. Palmer's place and communicated with Mr. Palmer. Learned from him that only 20 men were in town and that the expedition was not expected. At 2.45 started ahead. At 3.05 went to quarters. At 3.20 arrived off the town, the

Maple Leaf being in sight off Commodore Point. Steamed slowly by the wharves, close in. When up with the upper end of the town turned round and steamed down to the Maple Leaf, which had made fast to a dock. At 3.40 the troops commenced landing. Took a position ahead of the Maple Leaf. Several transports went alongside the wharves. One, the Hunter, was fired into by the rebel pickets. At 4, a landing having been effected, anchored. The Ottawa having been detained below, I went on shore and saw General Seymour. He said he was disappointed that the Ottawa had not come up. I informed the general that I should be obliged to go up the river to blockade McGirt's Creek so that the Saint Mary's might not escape up the river. I asked him if he intended moving that night. He said no; the artillery or the horses had not come up. He told me one company of cavalry had gone a short distance to look after the pickets that fired at the Hunter.

At 5.25 got under way. At 6.30 anchored off McGirt's Creek, as close in as the depth of water would permit, and I at once went on shore and stationed a picket-boat in the mouth of the creek.

On the morning of the 8th, I reported to Captain Breese on board the Ottawa off McGirt's Creek. By invitation of Captain Breese I went to Jacksonville in the Ottawa. Was on shore and saw General Seymour, at about 12 m.; asked him when he intended moving forward. He answered, "This afternoon, if the horses come up." Returned up the river to the Norwich in my gig, at about 12.30 p. m. At 8.15 I went in and stationed a picket-boat in the mouth of McGirt's Creek.

On the morning of the 9th, at 3.30, went to quarters, as the picket-boat had made signals. While at quarters heard the officer of the picket-boat hail a boat twice, and the reports of three muskets. Sent the launch, armed, inshore to find the picket-boat and learn the cause of the firing. At 4.10 the launch returned, having been unable to find the picket-boat in the fog. At 6.15 the picket-boat returned. The officer reported having fired in the direction of a boat, which he heard, but could not see on account of the fog, his hails not being replied to. At about 11 o'clock I saw Captain Breese on board the Ottawa. He informed me that the cotton had been burned and the Saint Mary's sunk during the night. I saw 2 men on the Ottawa, who stated to me that they deserted from the Saint Mary's the night previous, and that when pulling out McGirt's Creek into the Saint John's River they had been hailed and fired into. That they did not answer the hails, as they thought the rebels were pursuing them. By order of Captain Breese, I armed three boats of the Norwich, to proceed up McGirt's and Cedar Creeks in company with the Ottawa's boats. At about 1 p. m. we reached the Saint Mary's, and boarded her. No indications were found that any one had boarded her since she had been sunk. A small rifled gun was found on shore near a deserted camp, and the boats of the Saint Mary's were found in a creek. At 3.20 the boats returned to the ships. At 3.50 got under way. At 5.05, in obedience to signal from the flag-ship, anchored in line ahead off Jacksonville.

I am fully convinced that if the Norwich had not been anchored off McGirt's Creek, with a picket-boat in the creek, that the Saint Mary's would have escaped up the river.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK B. MERIAM,  
*Acting Master, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Morris Island, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General :*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 9th instant Lieut. Bradley Smith, Ninth Maine Volunteers, in charge of a small party, proceeded from Black Island to within about 800 yards of the Secessionville batteries, and burnt a rebel block-house on the edge of the marsh. It was used by the enemy for a picket-post at night, and was so strong that a small party could have easily defended it against a large one. Lieutenant Smith also took up two torpedoes, each containing some 40 pounds of powder, which were anchored in the creek a short distance above the block-house. The boat was fired upon with grape and musketry, but none of the party were injured.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
W. W. H. DAVIS,  
*Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. Post.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Morris Island, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General :*

CAPTAIN : In answer to your communication of the 9th instant, requesting a report of the names of colonels commanding brigades at this post and the length of time they have held such command, I have the honor to submit the following :

The First Brigade is commanded by Col. H. M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, who has held such command nine months, since he entered the service in November, 1861. The Second Brigade is commanded by Col. H. M. Hoyt, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, who has been in command of said brigade one month and a half.

Since November, 1861, I have been in command of a brigade, twenty-three months, three months of which time I commanded a division, of which my brigade formed a part. I organized my brigade in Washington City, on the 11th day of November, 1861, and was placed in command of it by Major-General McClellan, then Commanding General of the Army.

I remain, &c.,  
W. W. H. DAVIS,  
*Colonel 104th Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. Post.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 12, 1864.*

Lieut. JOHN R. MYRICK,  
*Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery :*

LIEUTENANT : You will embark the section of Hamilton's battery under your command upon the steam-boat Clyde and proceed im-



mediately to Jacksonville, Fla., reporting upon arrival at that place to Capt. John Hamilton, commanding company, or, in his absence, to Brig. Gen. T. Seymour.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry :

ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *February 12, 1864.*

Colonel OSBORN,

*24th Mass. Infy., Comdg. at Saint Augustine, Fla. :*

COLONEL : You will move at once with your entire command, except two good companies, under a good commander, to garrison Fort Marion and take post temporarily at Picolata. Leave a field officer in command if practicable. You will take three or four days' of cooked rations and 80 rounds of ammunition per man, leaving your camp equipage and heavy baggage behind to follow. The veteran volunteers are not to be taken, but are to go to Hilton Head, as already ordered. No females are to accompany the command or follow it. They should be sent North. Your post commissary is to accompany you. The garrison of Fort Marion are to remain in the fort nights, with the gates closed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DIST. OF FLA., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
No. 4. } *Jacksonville, Fla., February 13, 1864.*

I. Colonel Henry will proceed with his command to Gainesville, and will endeavor to capture the trains supposed to be at that place, and to run them to Baldwin, or at least so to disable them that they will not be of use for the present. All public property that cannot be removed will be destroyed, but private property will be scrupulously respected. On returning a small force will be sent to Middleburg. Return to Baldwin and report thence to General Seymour.

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By order of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour :

P. R. CHADWICK,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, February 13, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE,

*Chief of Staff, Hdqrs. Department of the Gulf :*

GENERAL : I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report of February 8, No. 71, the following additional information in regard to rebel movements in my neighborhood, received from refugees and deserters coming within our lines :

The rebel authorities are vigorously preparing to meet an attack upon Mobile, and to prevent a raid upon the two main arteries of

communication and transportation, the Mobile and Ohio and Mobile and Montgomery Railroads. On the 3d of February they expected a raid at Pollard by 1,500 cavalry from here, who are, I am sorry to say, not in existence.

Clanton's brigade, formerly at Pollard, became so unreliable that they were removed to Montgomery and replaced by two new regiments from Johnston's army. The railroad from Pollard to its terminus is guarded as before, but on the Pollard and Pensacola Railroad there is, in addition to the camp near Pensacola a regiment of cavalry and one of infantry stationed at Canoe Station, 15 miles this side of Pollard. Scouts, 50 strong, are visiting nearly every second day Pensacola.

The companies between the Escambia and Blackwater Bay were also exchanged for Kentucky troops. The same measure was adopted by the rebel military authorities above the head of Choctawhatchee Bay, in Washington and Walton Counties, replacing the former troops by more reliable from Kentucky, which will increase the difficulties of refugees and deserters to come within our lines. The guard ship in the Pensacola Bay off the mouth of Bayou Grand and above it having been removed, it becomes an imperative necessity for myself to make proper arrangements to guard and prevent a fording by the enemy at the mouth of the Bayou Grand or a landing below it. This will engage at least 200 efficient men, and as my very limited command is hardly sufficient for regular picket and guard duty, I would respectfully allude to the necessity of a re-enforcement, so much the more so as the falling back of Johnston's army may daily increase the number of armed rebels in West Florida.

My communication upon that subject to Commodore Smith, commanding navy-yard, I beg to inclose herewith.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,  
ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA,  
*Barrancas, February 13, 1864.*

Commodore W. SMITH,  
*Commanding Navy-Yard, Pensacola:*

COMMODORE: The guard ship in the bay off the mouth of the Bayou Grand and above it having been removed, I would respectfully request for information if any other arrangements have been or will be made by the navy to prevent a fording by the enemy at the mouth of the Bayou Grand or a landing below it.

Very respectfully, commodore, your obedient servant,  
ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 14, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General, &c., Hilton Head, S. C.:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to my instructions from department headquarters, I have dispatched the

Fourth Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers to Beaufort, S. C., to report to Brig. Gen. R. Saxton, and the First North Carolina Volunteers and Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, with Hamilton's battery, to Jacksonville, Fla., to report to Brig. Gen. T. Seymour.

In the two regiments last named I found a considerable number of men sick with the small-pox, and a still larger number who had been exposed to contagion. All these men I retained here with one medical and one other officer from each regiment to command and care for them. I shall have the honor to forward a more detailed report of the case as soon as I can ascertain all the facts.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—Supposing that these regiments were about to enter on active service, I retained here also such of the men of them as were unfit to march.

A. H. TERRY,

*Brigadier-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
No. 24. } *Hilton Head, S. C., February 15, 1864.*

I. Loyal people, and such as desire to become so under the provisions of the President's proclamation of December 8, 1863, who are now absent from their homes in East Florida, are invited to return there and resume their usual avocations. It is the intention of the United States Government, and wholly within its power, to afford them all needful protection.

II. It is the duty of officers to enforce in the strictest manner, and under the severest penalties, all existing orders and regulations forbidding the destruction or pillage of private property. Those who deliberately fail in the performance of their duty in this particular will be recommended to the President for summary dismissal.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
No. 25. } *Hilton Head, S. C., February 15, 1864.*

I. That portion of this geographical department bounded on the north by Charleston Harbor and on the south by Saint Helena Sound is hereby constituted the Northern District, under the command of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry, U. S. Volunteers.

II. That portion of the State of Florida contained within the limits of this department is hereby constituted the District of Florida, and is placed under the command of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, U. S. Volunteers.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
Folly Island, S. C., February 15, 1864.

Captain SUESS,  
New York Engineers :

CAPTAIN : I am instructed by the general commanding to express to you and through you to the men of your command his satisfaction with the prompt and efficient assistance rendered him on the late expedition to John's Island by you and your command. Roads were made and bridges repaired with a skill and readiness very praiseworthy. The general also wishes you to send in as accurate a statement as possible of the bridge built and afterward destroyed near Legaré's farm, stating what preparations would have to be made to build another bridge in case of a second expedition, and how long it would take to complete it.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
H. B. SCOTT,  
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,  
Jacksonville, Fla., February 15, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,  
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South :

COLONEL : In reply to your communication of February 7, I have the honor to state that Col. W. B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, has now been in command of a brigade since January 27, 1864 ; Colonel Hawley, Seventh Connecticut, since February 9, 1864 ; Col. G. V. Henry, since January 18, 1864. Colonel Tilghman temporarily commands at Baldwin the Third South Carolina, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, and Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers. Colonel Littlefield temporarily commands a camp of instruction, 6 miles from Jacksonville, of the Third South Carolina, Fifty-fifth Massachusetts, and First North Carolina, since February 15.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
T. SEYMOUR,  
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
Baldwin, Fla., February 16, 1864.

General GILLMORE :

I shall move on to-day, and have called up the Seventh Connecticut, Forty-seventh [New York], and Third U. S. Colored to this point. Send the Seventh New Hampshire here at once, to Baldwin. Colonel Hallowell to send three or four companies to Camp Finegan, and the Eighth U. S. Colored is ordered to move on to Pickett's (Ten-Mile Station) immediately.

T. SEYMOUR,  
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DIST. OF FLA., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
No. 13. } Jacksonville, Fla., February 17, 1864.

Colonel Guss will keep at least six companies of his regiment constantly patrolling the country toward or beyond Camp Cooper.

This command will be in the hands of an efficient officer, and will be absent habitually five days. Cooked rations for the time will be carried in haversacks, and 60 rounds of ammunition. No wagons nor transports. Every precaution will be taken against surprise by the enemy, and information will be carefully obtained of his movements. A concise report of each expedition will be made promptly to these headquarters.

Co-operation by the naval force may be useful, if only by pushing gun-boats up the river while the expeditions are out, and the commander will doubtless assist you in every possible way at your request to this effect.

The officer in command will be held rigidly and promptly responsible that private property is respected, that plundering, trespassing, and molestation of peaceful and defenseless families are prohibited and forbidden, and that the people are courteously and kindly treated. No cattle will be killed or taken, or any property destroyed, and generally the fact will be taught that we are here to bring back the sentiment of the people by kindness and protection, and not to exasperate by improper and barbarous irregularities unbecoming to discipline.

No oath of allegiance need yet be administered, but individuals prominently hostile in sentiment may be taken into Fernandina and their cases reported to these headquarters.

A force will be sent out immediately upon the reception of this order.

By order of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour :

R. M. HALL,  
*First Lieut., First U. S. Artillery, Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen.*

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FLAG STEAMER PHILADELPHIA,  
*Port Royal Harbor, S. C., February 18, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Commanding Department of the South :*

GENERAL : I inclose for your information copies of letters forwarded by the officer commanding afloat here in my absence, and hope some effectual measures will be taken to prevent the occurrence of acts so unnecessary and so prejudicial to the public interests. You have already apprised me that you are able and willing to do so.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. A. DAHLGREN,  
*Rear-Admiral, Comdg. South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 19, 1864.*

Referred to Colonel Howell, commanding district, for immediate examination and report.

The two inclosures to be returned.

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

U. S. SHIP VERMONT,  
Port Royal Harbor, S. C., February 5, 1864.

Col. REDFIELD DURYEE,  
*Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Hilton Head, S. C. :*

SIR : An officer of this ship in charge of the launch was arrested to-day on Hilton Head Island, by the order of Major Hicks, of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was obliged to walk to Seabrook (the officer who arrested him being on horseback) and back to his boat, from which he was kept away more than two hours.

I desire to call your attention to this exceedingly improper proceeding on the part of Major Hicks, in thus arresting, without sufficient cause, an officer of another service, separating him from the men under his charge, and thus interfering with the performance of his duty.

The occasion which would justify the arrest of a naval officer while in the discharge of his duty would have to be an extreme one, and in expressing to you my conviction that that action of Major Hicks in this case is altogether unjustifiable, I entertain the hope that measures will be taken to prevent the recurrence of such arrests for the future.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. REYNOLDS,  
*Commander, Comdg. Naval Depot, Port Royal, S. C.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 8, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, for his information, who will return this communication and direct Major Hicks to communicate in writing to these headquarters the reasons for his action, &c., as complained of within.

REDFIELD DURYEE,  
*Colonel Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Post.*

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. SEVENTY-SIXTH PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS,  
*Seabrook Landing, February 9, 1864.*

I have the honor to state that I knew nothing of the occurrence referred to by Captain Reynolds, except that Major Hicks told me on my arrival at these headquarters that he had seen the party that took Mr. Fuller's boat, and requested him to make statement to Captain Reynolds, that some action might be taken to procure another boat for Mr. Fuller, or pay him the money value of the one that was taken.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. CAMPBELL,  
*Lieut. Col. Seventy-sixth Pa. Vols., Comdg. Outpost.*

(Written statement made by Major Hicks forwarded to Commander Reynolds, February 10, 1864.)\*

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\* Not found ; but see Hicks to Howell, p. 487.



[Inclosure No. 2.]

U. S. SHIP VERMONT,  
*Port Royal Harbor, S. C., February 13, 1864.*

Col. REDFIELD DURYEE,  
*Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Hilton Head:*

SIR: In acknowledging the receipt of the letter of Major Hicks, of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, I desire to say that my object in writing to you in relation to the arrest of an officer of this ship, by the order of Major Hicks, was not so much to receive an explanation from him as to call your attention to the impropriety of that arrest, or of any arrests of naval officers by officers of the Army unless made under such circumstances as would carry a justification of the arrest with it.

The arrest of an officer of this ship by the order of Major Hicks on the complaint of a third party (as to an occurrence of a previous day), while engaged in the performance of his duty, with a boat and crew under his command, was such a violation of usage, was so far beyond the occasion, and was so much in excess of the authority of Major Hicks, which does not extend to officers of the Navy, that I desire to guard against the repetition of such arrests for the future.

It must be quite clear to your military judgment that in this case Major Hicks, on the statement of Mr. Fuller, should have refrained from taking such active measures himself against an officer belonging to another service.

Most certainly I should not feel myself authorized to proceed in such summary manner in the case of an officer of the Army, nor should I allow such action on the part of any naval officer under my command.

It would be unbecoming to the military association between both services, as it would be in violation of the practice which governs that association, if by the orders of any naval officer an officer of a regiment should be arrested in the presence of his men, taken away from his command and from the discharge of his duty, and required to answer for his conduct, as to a previous matter or as to any matter, to an officer of the Navy, whether of high or subordinate rank.

From the letter of Major Hicks it would seem that he does not perceive that his action in this case was in any wise improper.

With the hope that a better understanding may prevail for the future, I remain, very respectfully,

WILLIAM REYNOLDS,  
*Commanding Naval Depot of Port Royal, S. C.*

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HDQRS. DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS,  
*Key West, Fla., February 19, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE,  
*Chief of Staff, Hdqrs. Dept. of the Gulf, New Orleans, La.:*

GENERAL: I have received your letters of the 2d and 5th ultimo. I have also received the provisional commission of Capt. Henry A. Crane, Second Florida Cavalry, and forwarded it to him at Fort Myers. I return his provisional commission as captain of the Second Regiment of Florida Rangers. Captain Crane's company is now recruited up to 52 men, perhaps more, for I have not heard

from Fort Myers since the 5th of this month. I have from the beginning felt the necessity of that caution which the commanding general has enjoined in his indorsement upon my letter of December 23.

The removal of the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania from this district, under Special Orders, No. 39, has made it necessary to withdraw from Fort Myers the company of that regiment now there. The necessary preparations have been made, but the present norther will cause some delay and the company may be too late to embark with the battalion now at Key West; if so, it will be sent to Tortugas to embark with the other battalion now there. Captain Crane, with his 51 men, may be doubtful of his ability to hold Fort Myers. I have left the matter to his judgment. If so, he will repair to an island at Charlotte Harbor or Tampa Bay.

On the 2d instant, Captain Crane, with 40 men, marched eastwardly from Fort Myers, and on the afternoon of that day put up what is called a cattle-pen at Twelve-Mile Swamp. At midnight some 20 or 30 shots were fired at one of the sentinels and at the camp. The sentinel was slightly wounded; no other person on our side was hurt. The attacking party consisted of a small body of cavalry on a reconnaissance. The next day Captain Crane continued his march eastwardly, and saw, as he supposed, 40 or more mounted men in uniform, but could not get near them.

Yesterday 5 deserters and refugees came down from Tampa, who report that the soldiers have all left Tampa, and that none remained in Western Florida south of Tampa. They had all been ordered to Gainesville to join the forces in front of General Gillmore. Fort Brooke, at Tampa, is in charge of a few citizens. It would be easy to take the place if the report of the refugees be true, but it would be bad policy, I think, to take possession without being able to retain it.

Respectfully,

D. P. WOODBURY,  
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 21, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,  
*Comdg. N. Dist., Dept. of the South, Folly Island, S. C.:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send a good regiment to Jacksonville by the Delaware, with all possible dispatch. The men will take five days' rations, and will leave behind their tents and baggage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 21, 1864.*

Col. LOUIS BELL,  
*Comdg. 4th N. H. Vols., on board Steamer Delaware:*

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed with your command to Jacksonville, Fla., without delay, and report to the commanding officer at that point. If you find yourself

to be the senior officer there you will assume command and report by letter to Brigadier-General Seymour.

You will send word immediately to Colonel Howell that you are detached from his command, and that your regiment cannot be depended upon for the duty assigned to it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 21, 1864.*

OFFICER COMMANDING,  
*Jacksonville, Fla. :*

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you cause the two field-works ordered by him to be constructed on the outskirts of the town to be pushed to completion without delay. You will use for this purpose the whole available force under your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HILTON HEAD, S. C., *February 21, 1864.*

Col. J. B. HOWELL,  
*Commanding District:*

SIR: You having called my attention to a matter in which I am charged with the arrest of a naval officer unnecessarily, I most respectfully beg to submit the following statement:

On a previous occasion I was required by Commander Reynolds, with Colonel Duryee's indorsement, to make a statement of the facts, which I did. In the absence of my retained copy I will condense as much as possible.

Some few weeks ago an officer, as since he appears to be, from U. S. ship Vermont, came ashore with a launch and crew, near Elliott's plantation, for some purpose, and getting into some difficulty with his launch, asked and received permission from the soldiers on picket there to take a boat lying on the beach to rescue his launch. After rescuing his launch he lost the boat in some manner. The lost boat belonged to Mr. Fuller, Government agent at the plantation, used for the purpose of transporting provisions, &c., from Hilton Head, it being his only means of conveyance. Mr. Fuller then reported the case to Col. J. C. Campbell, commanding outposts at Seabrook Landing. The next day, the colonel being absent, I was temporarily in command. While in command Mr. Fuller came up and reported the same to me, also informing me that the officer was ashore then, and would give him no satisfaction in regard to his boat. I then told the adjutant to go to Elliott's and request this naval officer to come up, as I desired to see him. The adjutant took his horse and went, returning some time before the naval officer, who walked up. My reasons for requiring his presence were, that there were two parties involved in the dispute, and I would not act without hearing both sides of the question, for I would not take Mr. Fuller's assertion



alone. This naval officer appeared and made a plain statement of the facts, which were entirely satisfactory, as the boat, which has since been recovered, was lost through accident. When this naval officer appeared I could not recognize him as an officer, for he wore no insignia of rank whatever, only plain blue clothing with brass buttons. I treated him with courtesy and politeness, and told him to fix the matter up if possible, as it was hard for Mr. Fuller to lose his boat. He was not arrested; he was only requested to come up to the outpost headquarters to make his statement. In so doing I did not mean to insult him; it was only done with the purest motives on my part that I might act properly and right in the matter. I am very sorry that his superior officers took offense at this matter when there was no wrong whatever intended on my part. I acted only as I thought proper, from the purest motives.

Hoping that this statement will be satisfactory, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. HICKS,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers.*

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BALDWIN, *February 21, 1864.*

General TURNER:

There is authentic information that the enemy has from 10,000 to 15,000 men. I do not consider Baldwin as defensive against half that force, as it can be completely turned. I shall therefore go back to some position nigher Jacksonville, and think that the shortest line from the Saint John's to the creek will be the strongest. The men are pretty well tired out. Things go well.

T. SEYMOUR.

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
No. 27. } *Hilton Head, S. C., February 22, 1864.*

I. Lieut. Col. Charles E. Fuller is hereby announced as chief quartermaster of the Tenth Army Corps and Department of the South.

All assistant and acting assistant quartermasters in the department will immediately report to him, by letter, their address and the nature of their duties.

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By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,

*U. S. Volunteers:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to state that the steam-boats Sentinel and Delaware are now at Pawnee Landing and will be in readiness to receive troops, the former at 1 a. m., the latter at 5 a. m. to-morrow.

I am further directed to request that you will place 800 men on the Delaware and 500 men on the Sentinel with all possible dispatch, sending them to report at Jacksonville as soon as the vessels can cross the bar after receiving the troops.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Saint Augustine, Fla., February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, dated Fernandina, Fla., February 21, 1864, at 6 o'clock last evening. Teams were immediately dispatched for the baggage of the two companies stationed at Picolata, and all arrived here safe this morning.

I have now at this post about 180 men for duty, including 16 musicians, 50 recruits, who have never been initiated into the mysteries of handling a musket, and 30 men, detailed for duty in the different staff departments. The force at my command is entirely inadequate to furnish a proper picket and provost guard in case of actual danger from outside, but if any difficulty occurs, I shall do everything possible with the means at my disposal, which I trust will prove sufficient for any emergency that is likely to occur. Of that, however, you are much better able to judge than I am.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. OTIS,  
*Colonel Tenth Regiment Conn. Vols., Comdg. Post.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 23, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,  
*Chief of Staff, &c., Hilton Head, S. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that 1,300 men of General Ames' brigade left here for Jacksonville at 7 a. m. to-day, on the steamers Sentinel and Delaware. The remainder of this brigade is now embarking on the Ben De Ford.

The major portion of General Foster's brigade are embarking and will sail this evening; the rest of it will be placed on the De Ford, which will sail at high water to-morrow morning (8 o'clock).

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF PENSACOLA,  
*Pensacola, Fla., February 23, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. CHARLES P. STONE,  
*Chief of Staff, Department of the Gulf:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit, in connection with my report of February 13, No. 76, the following additional information

in regard to rebel affairs in my neighborhood, received from refugees and deserters :

There are no particular changes at Mobile ; they are continually preparing to meet an approaching attack. Deserters from Mobile can easier reach at present our blockading vessels outside the bay than my lines, which are now more vigorously guarded by new rebel troops. From the blockading squadron I hear that the iron ram Tennessee is over the bar below the city, but has not yet attempted to commence the execution of his announced "menaces."

There are 3,000 Tennessee troops at Pollard, 500 at Milton, Blackwater Bay, and some at Floridatown, Escambia Bay. They guard the line from Floridatown along Pound Creek, Bagdad Factory, Crigler's Mills, and along the Yellow River. They are by far more severe than the Florida troops relieved by them, and no refugees can now enter from that portion of the country into the Federal lines.

A steamer of not more than 6 feet draught could ascend by the Saint Mary de Galvers Bay, Blackwater Bay, and River to Morton's Mill, 40 miles from the navy-yard, and open, with a small force, the way again to the many refugees starving in the woods.

Two rebel cavalry companies are stationed at Euchee Anna, Washington County, with orders to force into the Confederate service all from sixteen to fifty-five years old, and to take everything from people sympathizing with and joining the Yankees.

A fire occurred at Pensacola on the evening of the 19th instant, and raged during the following night.

The report was current here that the rebels, in anticipation of the occupation of Pensacola by our forces, had created this work of destruction, and, as the transport steamer Hussar arrived here in the forenoon of the 20th, I started two companies of infantry on her up the bay to Pensacola, while I myself left with my small cavalry force by land. We found Captain Wade in command of the guard ship Gertrude, off Pensacola, with some of his men in the town under flag of truce, and the fire mostly subdued, but two wharves still in flames. A few men of rebel cavalry, encamped at the Fifteen-Mile Station, had left the town shortly before our arrival. My cavalry and infantry were set at work, and soon extinguished the fire.

Captain Wade and Mr. Marino, the pretended Spanish consul, expressed the opinion that the fire was created accidentally by some boys, and that the enemy had no hand in it. I, however, feel inclined to believe that the rebels were connected in the affair, because, first, the fire commenced in several places simultaneously ; second, no houses of rebel owners were destroyed, but about thirty-two houses of Union people who are within our lines ; third, the two wharves for use took fire, and, strange to say, on their extreme end, several hundred yards from shore, while the other two wharves, entirely worthless, were left intact, although in immediate vicinity of the former two ; fourth, that turpentine was found by myself spread on the extreme end of the lower wharf next to the spot where the heavy lumber was still burning on our arrival. Thus it seems to me that an intention of the rebels prevailed to destroy the property of Union refugees, and prevent a sudden landing of Federal troops at Pensacola.

Four commissioners, who arrived on the steamer Hussar from New Orleans to receive votes for the election of State officers of



Louisiana, are returning with the steamer *Jasmine* with 105 votes. My circular issued relative to the election is respectfully inclosed; also a rebel *Montgomery* paper of the 15th instant.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,  
ASBOTH,  
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 24, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,

*Quartermaster-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C. :*

GENERAL: I am in receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, inquiring whether the number of transports in this department cannot be reduced.

About two months since I called the attention of my late chief quartermaster to this subject, with a proposition to reduce the marine transportation one-fourth, but he remonstrated strenuously, urging that the wants of the troops could not be supplied with a less number of vessels. The officer who now fills his place will be instructed to make all the reduction possible. The real difficulty consists in the quality and condition of the vessels sent here. The steamers are mostly old and frail, and the machinery is constantly requiring repairs. I will send you a dozen of them in exchange for half the number of sound vessels.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

P. S.—What I mean is this: I will most cheerfully designate twelve steamers from my force of transports, to be exchanged for half their aggregate tonnage of such steamers as I can approve.

Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, February 25, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Some demonstrations having been made to-day by cavalry and artillery in front of Cedar Creek, I have withdrawn my infantry from that line and left Colonel Henry's command there to observe it.

The essential defenses of this place are sufficiently advanced to insure, I believe, a successful defense. The troops have been vigorously at work to-day with the spade, and a few hours more of timber cutting will suffice to prepare the position perfectly well.

Generals Ames and Foster's brigades arrived last night and this morning. I have, however, thought best to detain Colonel Bell's regiment a day or so in case an attack should be made, but it will not be delayed longer than seems absolutely necessary.

I have temporarily organized these troops, as indicated in the accompanying order, and have given the right of the line to General

Vogdes, the left to General Ames. I feel quite sure of a favorable result, no matter in what force the enemy may be, and I confess I can hardly believe the constant reports of his overpowering numbers, but think that 6,000 to 10,000 will amply cover the limits of his strength.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DIST. OF FLA., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
No. 22. } *Jacksonville, Fla., February 25, 1864.*

The following temporary organization of the troops of this command is announced :

BRIG. GEN. ISRAEL VOGDES' DIVISION.

First. Brigadier-General Foster's brigade, to which is attached the Fourth New Hampshire and Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers.

Second. Colonel Tilghman, First North Carolina and Third U. S. Colored Troops.

Third. Colonel Montgomery, Second and Third South Carolina Volunteers and Langdon's battery of First U. S. Artillery.

BRIG. GEN. A. AMES' DIVISION.

First. Colonel Noble's brigade.

Second. Colonel Hawley's brigade.

Third. Col. M. S. Littlefield, Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers and Captain James' battery, Third Rhode Island Artillery.

Colonel Barton's brigade, and Colonel Henry's command, and Captain Hamilton's artillery unassigned.

By order of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour :

P. R. CHADWICK,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 25, 1864.*

Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY,  
*Commanding Brigade :*

COLONEL : I have directed Colonel Henry to keep in front of you constantly a company of cavalry as a patrol, the commander of which should communicate with you. The object, of course, to give the earliest possible information as to any movements of the enemy, which, however, is not anticipated at this moment. Should he advance in force it is not my intention to meet him at the present position in which our troops are placed, but to fall back to Jacksonville, which is being rapidly prepared for that purpose. General Ames' brigade arrived yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 25, 1864.*

Col. GUY V. HENRY,  
*Commanding Cavalry Forces:*

COLONEL: If there is no evidence of the enemy being in force, with infantry and artillery in your front, you will push over Cedar Creek a strong party of observation, in order to ascertain his force immediately near you, and if you judge proper drive away whatever small parties may be there.

You will give Mr. Jackson a small escort to the front; pending his absence the above direction will be delayed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 25, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Comdg. Confederate Forces, East Florida:*

GENERAL: Notwithstanding the information contained in your communication\* of the 24th instant, respecting the body of the late Colonel Fribley, that it has not been identified, I have the honor to urge that measures may be taken to ascertain the possession of some of the articles upon his person, with a view to the return of some of them to his widow, now at this place. The accompanying memorandum† may serve to assist in whatever investigation you may decide to institute.

And I feel assured that whatever can be done by you to mitigate the sorrow that is the lot of this most deserving and greatly suffering lady will be cheerfully accorded. And any remuneration that may be desired or necessary to procure any part of the personal memorials mentioned in this memorandum will be duly forwarded to the parties having them in possession.

I have further to request, if the arrangement can be made, that Mrs. Fribley herself, accompanied by the adjutant of the late colonel, may be permitted to pass within your lines, in the hope of obtaining more information than can, perhaps, otherwise be anticipated.

The circumstances of this contest will certainly not be injuriously affected by such a concession to humanity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,  
*Department of the South:*

GENERAL: Your letters of the 13th and 16th instant have been received and submitted to the Secretary of War, who is of opinion that the commanding general of the Department of the South cannot at the present time be spared from his command. If, however,

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\*See p. 330.

†Not found.



the circumstances of the case render it necessary that you should come North, another officer will be assigned in your place, but such assignment will be considered as a permanent change of commanders.

I infer from your dispatch of the 13th instant that the objects for which your expedition was sent to Florida are mainly accomplished. I presume that no further operations of importance are contemplated against Charleston. A considerable part of your force will therefore be available for operations against some other point of the Atlantic or Gulf coast. You will please report the number of men and batteries that you can send against Mobile or some point in North Carolina, reserving sufficient force and means to hold, with the assistance of the navy, the positions you now occupy. Your letter to the Secretary of the Treasury has been forwarded, with the approval of the War Department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 26, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General :*

COLONEL : I have the honor to report that when I received orders for the movement of the brigades of Generals Foster and Ames to Jacksonville, two companies of the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers, which regiment is a part of Foster's brigade, were on duty as guards at the signal stations at Botany Bay and Big Bay. A steamer was immediately dispatched to bring them up, and when I reported that the last of the troops would be taken by the Ben De Ford I confidently expected that those two companies would be here in time to go upon her. In this I was disappointed. I therefore send them to Hilton Head by the steamer Golden Gate, with instructions to the commanding officer to apply at department headquarters for transportation to Jacksonville.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding District.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. SCHIMMELFENNIG :

GENERAL : I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to inform you that the steam-boat Golden Gate will leave Pawnee Landing at 6 p. m. this day, and to request that you order the companies of the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers which have arrived from Botany and Big Bay Islands to embark thereon. The Golden Gate will take the detachment to Hilton Head, from whence transportation will be given them to Jacksonville, Fla.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have nothing to report of consequence. The cavalry of the enemy is at McGirt's Creek. Our works here are nearly completed and are in a respectable condition for defense at any moment. Such guns as have been indicated already are, however, much needed.

A flag was sent this morning to request measures to be taken with respect to identification of Colonel Fribley's remains. Lieutenant Jackson, aide-de-camp, was the bearer, and conversation was free.

From all that I can gather, it is probable that the enemy had 10,000 men engaged at Olustee, with some 5,000 in reserve 3 miles in rear, and this reserve came up at the close of the action. The rebel loss was heavy; rumor says that a Savannah paper states it at 2,200, but it was undoubtedly severe. Returns of casualties, &c., will be forwarded in a day or so. The Fourth New Hampshire is ordered back to-night.

With a superior force in our presence it will be impossible, probably, to accomplish much in the way of occupancy. Several points along the Saint John's can, of course, be held, but to advance into the interior with such advantages as are possessed by the rebels, in their ability to concentrate, will be attended with constant chances of disaster.

Expecting that the major-general commanding the department will soon be here, I have made no movement, confining myself simply to the preparation of these works.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
*Hilton Head District, S. C., February 26, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. EDWARD W. SMITH,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor respectfully to report that, in obedience to the order of the major-general commanding the Department of the South, indorsed on the letter\* of Rear-Admiral Dahlgren, I proceeded to make the examination directed. I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Hicks to report to me, and to state all the facts and circumstances connected with the arrest of the naval officer referred to by his order. I respectfully forward herewith the written statement† made by Lieutenant-Colonel Hicks. In his interview with me he stated to me, as he has stated in his written statement, that he merely sent the adjutant to request the officer to come to him, that he desired to see him. In doing so he was, as he thought, influenced by a proper and kind motive, as he said to me, namely, that he might know from the officer himself the facts and circumstances of the loss of the boat, and that he should not be guided and governed alone by the ex parte and one-sided statement of Mr. Fuller. Colonel Hicks deeply regrets that his action in the

\* See p. 483.

† See p. 487.

matter has caused unpleasant feelings in that branch of the service (the Navy), for which he expressed the highest respect. From all that passed when he was before me, I do not think he intended it as an arrest. He earnestly disclaimed all thought or intention of insulting or doing injury to the feelings and self-respect of the officer. The circumstance is to be regretted. I am satisfied, however, that the like will not occur again here.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA B. HOWELL,  
*Colonel, Commanding District.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. T. SEYMOUR,  
*Commanding U. S. Forces, Jacksonville, Fla.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 25th instant, and to reply that I will cause the proper inquiries to be made to obtain the information sought for in your letter, and will, as soon as practicable, forward you a reply by flag of truce.

I regret to say that I consider it at present objectionable, for reasons which it is needless for me to state but which will doubtless be appreciated by yourself, to grant a permit for Mrs. Fibley and the adjutant of her late husband's regiment to visit the battle-field of Ocean Pond. At a future day these obstacles may be removed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. T. SEYMOUR,  
*Commanding District of Florida, Jacksonville, Fla.:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you cause the steamer John Adams to be sent to Hilton Head. You will retain three transports for service in Saint John's River and send back all the others to this place, detaining those which may arrive from time to time with supplies only so long as is necessary to discharge them. You will order Brigadier-General Vogdes to report at these headquarters unless you require his services. Should you require more horses they will be forwarded upon your wants being made known.

If you deem it essential to complete the railroad from Fernandina to Baldwin, the iron which was taken up on Amelia Island will be sent to you; otherwise it will be retained here. If you deem it practicable and prudent you will send for the lumber remaining at Albertis' Mills.

The forces in Florida will be reduced as soon as the position at Jacksonville is secured. You will examine the point on Saint John's River designated as Yellow Bluff, with a view to erecting a



field-work there to protect your communications on the river, and, should you deem it expedient, will cause one to be constructed immediately.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,

*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,  
*Hilton Head, S. C., February 28, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. T. SEYMOUR,

*Commanding District of Florida, Jacksonville, Fla.:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you cause the lumber obtained on Saint Mary's River to be stored at Fernandina, subject to orders from these headquarters. Requisitions for such amount of lumber as you may require will be made out and forwarded to these headquarters for approval. You will please instruct the commanding officer at Fernandina that the lumber must not be used by him for any purpose except by permission of the major-general commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,

*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*February 28, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,

*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt at this moment of a communication from department headquarters touching several points, upon which the major-general commanding gives directions:

First. That Yellow Bluff should be occupied. Yesterday morning Lieutenant Michie was sent to examine this locality, and this morning two companies went down to construct a block-house—which was all that was thought necessary at present—on the neck of the isthmus behind the bluff, should further defenses seem necessary when the ground is cleared of the almost impenetrable jungle that now covers it.

Second. At present, while Baldwin is not in our hands, I do not deem it essential that the railroad from Fernandina to Baldwin should be completed at this moment. Probably a little later it may be of consequence, but the railroad is so much shorter by Jacksonville that it will be sufficient for all movements that can now be made.

Third. The lumber at Albertis' (I think Major Brooks informed me) is probably burned.

A saw-mill is expected to be in operation here soon (in a fortnight), and it may be advisable to send that from Folly Island, as a permanency here, for cutting for public purposes.

Fourth. As soon as this position is as complete as it should be I think it will be well to occupy Palatka, and to throw there a sufficient force, temporarily, to fortify it with rapidity.

Fifth. Another regiment should be mounted here. I cannot recommend the Seventh New Hampshire for this purpose. If the remaining battalions of the Massachusetts cavalry are to be expected, as rumor states, I should be happy to learn the fact.

The enemy has now nearly five times, numerically, my mounted force, certainly four times. No activity can be anticipated or expected, offensively, while the disparity is so great.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DIST. OF FLA., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
No. 27. } *Jacksonville, Fla., February 28, 1864.*

I. In accordance with instructions from department headquarters, Brig. Gen. I. Vogdes is relieved from duty and will report to department headquarters.

The brigadier-general commanding hereby expresses his thanks to Brigadier-General Vogdes for the cordial assistance rendered while on duty in this district.

II. Brigadier-General Foster will assume command of the division commanded by Brigadier-General Vogdes.

\* \* \* \* \*

By order of Brig. Gen. T. Seymour.

R. M. HALL,

*First Lieutenant, First U. S. Artillery, A. A. A. Gen.*

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Folly Island, S. C., February 29, 1864.*

Col. W. W. H. DAVIS,

*Commanding U. S. Forces, Morris Island, S. C. :*

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding desires that Forts Strong and Shaw be provided with reserves of ammunition for small-arms of all the calibers in use at your post by the troops, and reserves of provisions and fuel. Wells should be dug within each fort. It may not be practicable to procure good water in Fort Strong; should such prove to be the case, a supply of from 4,000 to 5,000 gallons should be obtained in barrels and stored in the bomb-proofs.

One hundred thousand rounds of small-arm ammunition and 5,000 rations of bread, meat, coffee, and sugar will be sufficient for Fort Strong; 200,000 rounds of ammunition and 10,000 rations of bread, &c., for Fort Shaw. If storage can be had in Battery Putnam, without too much occupying the bomb-proofs, supplies of the same kind should be placed there.

The brigadier-general commanding suggests the propriety of making up the Requa Battery organization. He thinks that all the material of the battery except the horses should be turned over to Captain Hennesey, and that a sufficient number of the men to work the batteries in the boats should be added to the boat infantry. The horses will be turned over to the quartermaster.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 29, 1864.*

Capt. G. B. BALCH,  
*Comdg. U. S. Naval Forces, Saint John's River, Fla.:*

CAPTAIN: The circumstances that recently compelled the presence of a larger naval force than usual at this point being no longer of paramount consequence I communicate the fact to you for your information.

I cannot let this occasion pass without heartily thanking you, captain, for the promptness and cordiality with which arrangements were made by you to assist us at a moment when it appeared probable that the vigorous assistance of the force under your command would be necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,  
*Jacksonville, Fla., February 29, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER:

GENERAL: I desire that the troops of your division should be constantly employed, as far as means will admit, in clearing up and preparing the ground on the opposite side of the stream, so as to increase the strength of Jacksonville as a military position. With a direction of this preparation you are charged, and you will effect it in the shortest time possible, keeping as many of your command at work as can possibly be employed. All the axes on hand will be furnished by Major Place, of the engineers. As soon as this is effected a change will probably be made in your position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

JAMES ISLAND, *January 2, 1864—11.15 a. m.*

General JORDAN:

No change of importance has been observed on this front to-day. I carefully examined enemy's works on Long Island from a point half a mile distant; only one face of it can be seen from this island, the rest of the work being masked by the trees and hillocks on Morris Island. From that part of the work it appears and seems to be a carefully finished work, with large magazine. This flank runs parallel with creek from Secessionville, and no guns are to be seen on it. The rear opening toward Folly Island is closed. It is not possible to determine if it is offensive against Secessionville or defensive for protecting this creek. Few men or tents to be seen.

HAGOOD,  
*General.*



HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 2, 1864.*

Col. EDWARD C. ANDERSON,  
*Commanding River Batteries, Savannah, Ga. :*

COLONEL : Your letter of the 30th ultimo has just been received. I was not aware that the arms you refer to were State arms. I have, in consequence, ordered them restored to those companies, especially as the latter are ordered to the Third Military District (General Walker's), so as to be nearer to Savannah for future operations. I intend ere long to send in the same direction the rest of the troops I temporarily withdrew from Georgia, so as to put them under the control of General Gilmer, for the defense of Savannah. As regards the question of small-arms, I have ordered that all heavy artillery companies, or infantry doing permanent duty as heavy artillerists, shall be armed with smooth-bore muskets, and their rifles be used to equalize the armament of the infantry. That order has already been applied here, and will have to be complied with elsewhere in the department. Of course due regard will be had that State arms shall go to troops already similarly armed.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
 No. 1. }

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Savannah, January 2, 1864.*

I. Maj. John J. Clarke, Provisional Corps of Engineers, having reported for duty to Maj. Gen. J. F. Gilmer, second in command, in compliance with Special Orders, No. 307, paragraph 9, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, is hereby announced as chief of the Engineer Department in the Military District of Georgia and the Third Military District of South Carolina, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. All instructions from these headquarters in relation to engineering operations will be sent through Major Clarke, and all engineer officers in the above-named districts will render their reports and official papers to him.

III. Commanders of districts and sub-districts desiring any modifications or additions to works as planned and directed by Major Clarke, chief engineer, will submit their views to these headquarters for consideration.

By order of Major-General Gilmer, second in command :

J. H. ALEXANDER,  
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, *January 3, 1864.*

(Received 4th.)

General COOPER :

Enemy has been reconnoitering and sounding in vicinity of Dewees Inlet north, and Long Island, indicating possible movement in that direction. His encampment on Cole's Island has lately increased. This shows great danger of uncovering Charleston to protect country and railroad from here to Savannah.

G. T. BEAUREGARD

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 5, 1864.

## SECRETARY OF WAR:

It would seem proper and advisable to call on Governor Brown for the balance of the 15,000 local-defense men in view of the apprehension set forth within.

J. D.

JANUARY 3, 1864.

Col. D. B. HARRIS,

*Chief Engineer:*

COLONEL: The commanding general instructs me to direct your attention to the following points brought to his notice by a recent inspection of Fort Sumter by an officer of the general staff:

The explosion and the fierce heat consequent upon the combustion caused the two chambers comprising the magazine to fall in, bringing down the superincumbent rubbish and forming a very large gap in the interior slope which protects the gorge wall. This is closed by the interior brick wall of the fort, a little strengthened at the base by a sand traverse revetted with gabions, but very weak at the top. In addition to this increased danger from artillery fire, the direct footpath from the top of the southwest angle along the gorge wall is temporarily interrupted, so that infantry cannot be deployed there with effect.

The secret gallery on the north and northeast sides of the fort has been completed, except some covering needed on the northeast end. The nearest arch where it terminates, prepared for musketry fire, is so much shattered that it will be partly filled up, leaving room for about 4 men to fire; the next arch will be open.

I would respectfully call attention to the necessity of putting a heavy force on the interior traverse at the southwest angle, as the enemy can interrupt it if they choose to open fire. Captain Johnson has only 90 negroes, who are very much worked down, having been nearly sixty days in the harbor.

Captain Johnson is engaged in constructing a wooden stairway in the southwest angle, which is to wind up the area of the stairs to the second tier of casemates and then make a straight reach upward in the direction of the west wall, ending on that wall some 8 or 10 feet beyond the old exit. This will require a very strong traverse to protect it from the fire of Morris Island and of the monitors. Indeed, the upper work now going on could be seen from Morris Island and stopped or greatly checked by the fire of rifle guns. The commanding general therefore wishes you to ascertain whether or not this arrangement is susceptible of any improvement. He also wishes to know whether a portion of the room of the exploded magazine which was saved, and is now being used as a store-room, cannot be properly ventilated.

Finally, it is the wish of the commanding general that an alarm-bell shall be placed on the western casemates, and so arranged that it could be rung at Colonel Elliott's headquarters; that a similar arrangement be made with the center bomb-proof, and that the sentinel on the south angle be able to ring a bell in Colonel Elliott's room.

Respectfully,

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,  
*Mount Pleasant, January 3, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General :*

GENERAL : I had the honor to send you a telegram last night from Sullivan's Island, informing you of the approach of the enemy's barges toward Dewees Inlet. This morning a report from Battery Marshall informs me a steamer yesterday went north, with four or five barges in tow, from the blockade fleet, leaving the barges near the extremity of Long Island and opposite. The steamer returned to the fleet, and three vessels from the north joined it. Captain Duffus' pickets, from Dewees Inlet, report that four barges late in the evening passed and entered Capers' Inlet; others might have passed in the night. The outposts in that direction will be directed to be on the alert and report. What the enemy's intention may be is of course conjectural.

The signal men at Battery Marshall report from fifteen to twenty barges as having gone north.

A foraging party would probably have gone into Bull's Bay with one steamer and boats, and it appears quite likely that the movement may be a reconnaissance to examine the inland waters with a view of operating in that direction against Sullivan's Island and the main. Bull's Bay gives an entrance and tolerable harbor. Capers' and Dewees Inlets are both better than Light-House Inlet, and the inner channel from Bull's to the Narrows opposite Long Island would admit almost any vessel of the class entering the Stono they chose to bring. Mean time the works at Battery Marshall are not complete, or near it. All the works on the main are in bad condition, and the causeway for intercommunication, independent of the bridge, not finished. The firing upon the bridge heretofore reported has not been repeated.

As for the tearing down of the houses on Sullivan's Island, reported by some person unknown, I can only say that the bridge is not unmasked toward Morris Island, nor can any portion of it be seen except from Cumming's Point. It has always been visible from that point. Meanwhile the fire did not come from thence. The destruction of the houses on Sullivan's Island, except by order, has been positively forbidden weeks since.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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CAMP FRIPP, JOHN'S ISLAND, *January 3, 1864.*

Capt. JAMES H. PEARCE, *Assistant Adjutant-General :*

CAPTAIN : On my arrival here this morning from Church Flats (where I passed the night on my return from Adams' Run), I ascertained that a mulatto fellow, representing himself to be the cook of General Gillmore, had been captured on this island yesterday afternoon, near Dr. Curtis' place, through the fidelity of a slave, the property of Joseph Eding, a private of the Rebel Troop. The prisoner, W. H. Ploughden by name, gives the following account of himself and his capture: On last Thursday morning, early in the day, he left Folly Island (the general being engaged to dine on board of the gun-boat Pawnee), and proceeded with two others in a small boat up



the Stono (to which I presume he intended to be Burden's plantation) for the purpose of obtaining pumpkins, which he heard were very numerous at a plantation where two old negroes resided, but through his ignorance of the localities he entered the Aberpoolie Creek, and must have landed at Walpole's plantation, where he got lost in searching for these negroes. He passed entirely across the island and went over on Wadmalaw as far as Rockville, from which place he saw the Yankee observatory on Clark's Island, but not knowing to which party it belonged, he concluded to retrace his footsteps. (Some of the patrol had seen his footprints going and returning from Rockville and endeavored to follow it, but could not do so on account of the numerous old fields, &c.) On his arriving at Dr. Curtis' place, where the roads from the two islands intersect each other, being much fatigued and very hungry, and seeing a cart approaching and the negro Paul riding a horse, he concluded to ask for assistance, which was apparently granted, but Paul, riding on ahead, gave information to 2 men of the Rebel Troop, stating that if they would hide themselves he would bring the prisoner along in the cart and they could capture him, which they did. On their arrival in camp, the condition of the prisoner from exposure and fatigue was such as to require the attendance of the surgeon. This morning he is much improved, but still so prostrated that the surgeon advises that he should be allowed to remain a day longer before removal.

The prisoner is a very intelligent and educated fellow from New York, and gives information which, if true, may be of value to us. He says that he heard General Gillmore state that he had but 18,000 effective men in Stono Inlet; that the forces at that point were being gradually removed, and from the vicinity of Charleston; that a council of officers had been called the other day, and he had heard that they (the officers) had said that the siege of Charleston was "about played out;" that General Gillmore expected to remove his headquarters to Hilton Head. He also heard that Savannah was to be the next point of attack, by way of the Ogeechee River. He appears to know but little about our fight on the morning of the 25th, but states that he believes that 3 or 4 were killed and 7 wounded. The Marblehead was somewhat injured. I also heard of many of the negroes that escaped from this and the neighboring islands. The men have been hired by the Government, but the women and children were perfectly destitute, as the Government had stopped issuing rations to them, and he was sorry to say they lived by prostituting themselves with the soldiers; but I shall send him over to your headquarters as soon as the surgeon pronounces him capable of undertaking the journey.

I would respectfully bring to your notice the conduct of the servant Paul, and request that he be rewarded in some way for his fidelity and honesty. Such a measure would tend to have a most beneficial influence upon the negroes about the camp, for he could with perfect safety to himself have assisted the prisoner to escape to the enemy by means of a canoe, and the numerous little creeks that lead into the Kiawah.

I am, captain, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. L. WALPOLE,

*Captain, Commanding Advance Forces.*

P. S.—In corroboration of the statement of the prisoner about his having passed up the river in a small boat with 2 other men, I would

state that a small boat was seen to pass Legareville on its way down, with a man in it, and what appeared to be a bundle in the bow, but which may have been the other man.

I refer you to the report of the 31st of December, 1863.

J. B. L. W.

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JANUARY 4, 1864.

Maj. HENRY BRYAN,

*Assistant Inspector-General:*

MAJOR: The commanding general desires you to ascertain and report upon the general result of the enemy's bombardment of the city; amount of damage done to property and life since its commencement, also number of shots, average per day, proportion of shells which burst, and what part of the city appears to be most frequently struck, and any other points you may deem pertinent.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KEARNY.

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JANUARY 4, 1864.

Col. J. R. WADDY,

*Chief Ordnance Officer:*

COLONEL: The commanding general wishes you to make experiments in the city with the 32-pounder rifle intended for Battery Haskell, with a view to ascertain its range when used as a mortar. The charge, which should be the smallest practicable, length of fuse, &c., must be determined for ranges from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles. When in position at Battery Haskell, it will not be fired without orders from these headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KEARNY.

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CONFIDENTIAL.]

JANUARY 4, 1864.

Lieut. FRANK MARKOE, Jr.,

*Signal Corps:*

SIR: I am instructed by the commanding general to say that hereafter any member of the Signal Corps who shall obtain an important message of the enemy shall be entitled to a furlough of from ten to twenty days, according to the importance of the message, which will be determined by these headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KEARNY.

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OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,  
*Charleston, January 4, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,

*A. A. G. and Chief of Staff, Dept. S. C., Ga., and Fla.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to state, in reply to Colonel Elliott's communication of the 30th ultimo, that the preparations now being made for mounting guns on the west face of Fort Sumter imply

no more capacity in the walls of the fort for resistance than did the mounting of the guns on the northeast face, which was recommended and ordered without any reference to exterior protection.

Captain Champneys, the engineer in charge of the fort to whom the order was given to prepare for mounting the last-named guns, was directed to report upon the practicability of protecting the embrasures of these guns, and he suggested an exterior iron shield, which was approved, with some slight modifications, and orders were given for its construction, which have not been carried into effect, as will appear from the accompanying report of Lieutenant Young, not for the want of iron plating (that was supplied by the Navy Department), but for lack of competent mechanics to do the work.

There is, however, no question it is desirable to protect the walls of the fort by a shield or crib-work, or both, and I will make the effort to have it done. I have already instructed Captain Johnson to make preparations, when he can conveniently do so, for the erection of crib-work to the right of the three-gun battery on the northeast face of the fort, and will spare no effort to do all that can be done for strengthening the fort in every available way, both inside and out.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. HARRIS,  
*Colonel and Chief Engineer Department.*

[Inclosure.]

CHARLESTON, *November 14, 1863.*

Col. D. B. HARRIS,  
*Chief Engineer :*

COLONEL : I have the honor to report that in accordance with directions I called on Mr. Thomas Eason, with whom you stated you had contracted for the construction of the iron shield for Fort Sumter, but finding him out of the city I referred to his brother, Mr. J. M. Eason, in whose possession I found the sketch which had been furnished by the Engineer Department.

From what I can learn of the matter Mr. Thomas Eason was the party who engaged to do the work, but with the expectation that his brother, Mr. J. M. Eason, who had the means and tools at his disposal, would do it.

I asked Mr. J. M. Eason if he would undertake the work and press it forward at once. This he declined to do, stating that he did not approve of the plan and would not like to be responsible for its success ; besides which he had undertaken work for the navy which absorbed his time and means. He said he would cut and drill the iron in accordance with directions that might be furnished him.

On Mr. Eason declining the work I applied to proprietors of other mechanical establishments in the city, but could not induce them to undertake it, they alleging that they were engaged with other Government contracts and had not the means of doing it.

I then endeavored to find mechanics who would work at the fort under my immediate direction, hoping that though without experience in this particular work I might be able to execute it, but in this I also failed, as there was no one disengaged or willing to go to the fort.



At your suggestion I inquired from the Navy Department, through Captain Ingraham, if their engineer, Mr. Freeman, could furnish me with mechanics, but he informed me that Mr. Freeman had no workmen and only superintended the work done for the navy at the shops in the city.

I do not think it practicable to carry on this work without competent mechanics with some experience, especially as it would have to be done under many disadvantages.

Very respectfully,

W. G. YOUNG,  
*Lieutenant, Engineer.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,  
*Mount Pleasant, January 5, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff, &c. :*

GENERAL : No mention has been made of buoys in Dewees Inlet as yet. Instructions have been given to have a continual lookout kept from the mainland and Long Island. The barges are reported as having gone into Capers' and Price's Inlets. Should it prove that the movement be one of reconnaissance, they will probably be observed as soon as the weather clears or soon after. It has been too foggy for them to operate within the last two days or to be seen.

A boat approached within 500 yards of Battery Beauregard yesterday afternoon, and was fired upon. I have urged forward the building of the chevaux-de-frise recommended some time since, and hope it will be commenced this morning. If the telegraph wire recommended in my letter of yesterday can be procured, it will add much to the security of exposed points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, *January 5, 1864*

Capt. WILLIAM F. NANCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General :*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to submit the annexed report of subsistence at this post.

The supply of bacon being exhausted, and fresh beef having also failed, the troops of this command had no meat yesterday, and I am unable to procure any from Mount Pleasant or Charleston. The supply of meal and grist is smaller than usual, as Major Molloy, commissary of subsistence, was unable to send me any on my last requisition. A full supply is expected soon. The stock of candles, soap, and whisky will be increased so soon as I can procure a boat to bring some, which will probably be to-night or to-morrow night.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. ROBERTSON,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

*Report upon the state of subsistence at the post of Sullivan's Island, under charge of Maj.-J. R. Robertson, commissary of subsistence, January 5, 1864.*

Articles.	Quantity.	Rations.	Remarks.
Bacon .....			
Hard bread .....	pounds.. 87,661	87,661	} Equal to 260,661 bread rations.
Flour .....	barrels.. 760	133,000	
Meal .....	pounds.. 50,000	40,000	
Rice .....	do 40,625		
Peas .....	do 2,300		
Sugar .....	do 9,930		
Coffee .....	do 270		
Candles .....	do 280		
Soap .....	do 841		
Salt .....	bushels.. 211		
Whisky .....	gallons.. 135		

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, &C.,  
January 7, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major Guerin, who will please report what promise there is from arrangements of the subsistence department for a supply of bacon or pork (fresh or salt) and for beef.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,  
Charleston, January 7, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

My report of stores on hand made this day shows the stock of meats. The results are not encouraging, and future prospects are bad. Cattle are very scarce. It is said that many hogs have died of an epidemic. Since impressment has been virtually suspended by General Orders, 144, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, it is doubtful if any bacon can be got until it is paid in as tax, and that will give the army but a few days' rations.

I respectfully suggest that an order be promptly issued restricting the shipment of all subsistence out of the State, and that after allowing liberal provision for the wants of the people the impressment law be rigidly enforced. Without an early remedy (an improved currency would be best) it will be very difficult to get bread before the year closes.

H. C. GUERIN,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
Charleston, S. C., January 8, 1864.

I regret profoundly to be obliged again to bring this matter of the subsistence of the troops intrusted with the defense of Charleston to the attention of the War Department. The gravity of the state of affairs admitted by Major Guerin must be my excuse for the step.

I cannot agree with Major Guerin that this deplorable state of affairs is due to any "virtual" suspension of the power to impress subsistence consequent upon General Orders, No. 144, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, series 1863, but to the lack of administrative capacity on the part of Major Guerin, and the want of suitable agents to reach the supplies in hands of original owners or growers and producers, who will compete with middlemen or speculators. This, and not paragraph II, General Orders, No. 31, reproduced in General Orders, No. 144, series 1863, is the real reason why, at least, a more abundant supply of meat has not been accumulated. These middlemen purchase with the same currency which Major Guerin regards as another source of his difficulty.

The fact is, I am obliged to ask that some one in whose business capacity and ability to develop the resources of the country I can have more confidence than I have in Major Guerin may be sent to relieve him. I may be mistaken about him, but submit that it must be for the good of the service that some one more acceptable to me should occupy his position.

Respectfully,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. 6TH MIL. DIST., DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
*January 5, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Your order to send another company of infantry (one acquainted with the practice of heavy artillery) to General Robertson's command somewhat embarrasses mine. According to your orders, the nineteen companies of the Twenty-sixth and Fifty-ninth [Virginia] are posted from the Wappoo to Meggett's and on John's Island; the ten companies of the Fourth [Virginia Heavy Artillery] are posted from Meggett's to Willstown, and two of the ten companies of the Forty-sixth were sent to General Robertson, and the other eight companies were kept as a reserve here at Adams' Run. This enabled me to concentrate a battalion at least at any point on the front lines of this district. But since the engineer has taken 100 men from the eight companies of reserve here, and will take some 75 or 100 men more from Church Flats for fatigue parties, and General Robertson takes another company, I will be left with no reserves at Church Flats and with only 250 men here. To remedy this deficiency of force in this district, where the various posts are distant and much separated, the defensive works ought to be pushed as rapidly as possible. But the engineer has not the tools and implements necessary to begin the works. He has no axes and no transportation. I have made requisitions for them, and so has he, he reports, in vain. I ask for your orders to have 150 spades or shovels and 50 axes and 2 wagons sent to these headquarters for engineer uses as early as practicable. I have ordered my quartermaster again to apply for them.

With the highest respect, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*



CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 6, 1864.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

On the 19th ultimo I requested that some experienced and tried officer be sent to command at Columbus, Ga., but receiving no answer, at the suggestion and recommendation of Major-General Gilmer, Col. J. W. Robertson, serving in the Engineer Corps, an officer whom I consider eminently qualified for the position, was, on the 25th ultimo, assigned to the command at that place. He is a citizen of Alabama.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 6, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE, *Adams' Run, S. C.:*

Please have the captured negro treated kindly and sent here when able to travel. Shall send reward for the negro captor also by mail.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 6, 1864.*

Col. R. F. GRAHAM,

*Twenty-first South Carolina Vols., Columbia, S. C.:*

COLONEL: In a letter of yours dated December 2, 1863,\* addressed to Lieut. Col. Alfred Roman, inspector-general, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, relative to the occupation of the south end of Morris Island by the enemy, on the 10th of July, it is noticed that you write in the first page of your report:

And extensive works were unmasked on Little Folly Island, next to Morris Island.

On the second page:

And that they were putting up works on Little Folly Island was also reported.

The commanding general desires to know from this whether you mean that regular works were visible to you on Little Folly Island, or whether the enemy threw up rifle-pits and epaulements only.

You will therefore, at your earliest convenience, be pleased to forward to these headquarters your opinion on this subject, and the exact description of the works you saw, and reported as being erected by the enemy on Little Folly Island prior to the 10th July, 1863.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. WEMYSS FEILDEN.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 6, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,

*Second in command, Savannah, Ga.:*

Reports from enemy say he intends attacking Savannah via Ogeechee River. May not be true, but have an eye in that direction. Are any encampments visible along this coast?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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\*See Vol. XXVIII, Part II, p. 536.

OFFICE CHIEF OF SUBSISTENCE,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 7, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff and Asst. Adj. Gen., Charleston, S. C.:*

SIR: I have the honor to report the quantities of subsistence stores and funds on hand on 1st instant:

Articles.	Quantity.	Articles.	Quantity.
In the city:		In the country—Continued.	
Salt beef .....	pounds 4,565	Fish .....	pounds 86,800
Salt pork .....	do 4,669	Flour .....	barrels 2,551
Bacon .....	do 5,899	Flour .....	sacks 1,482
Flour .....	barrels 2,567½	Meal .....	pounds 122,315
Hard bread .....	pounds 10,216	Peas .....	bushels 101½
Meal .....	do 76,166	Rice .....	pounds 1,356,260
Peas .....	do 14,608	Rice, rough .....	bushels 22,130
Rice .....	do 1,520,854	Coffee .....	pounds 1,905
Rough rice .....	bushels 72,030	Sugar .....	do 79,835
Sugar .....	pounds 70,171	Candles .....	do 1,389
Coffee .....	do 2,029	Soap .....	do 1,802
Candles .....	do 2,033	Salt .....	bushels 6,668½
Soap .....	do 956	Salt .....	sacks 420
Salt .....	bushels 328	Molasses .....	gallons 240
Molasses .....	gallons 852	Whisky .....	do 1,313
Whisky .....	do 603	Brandy .....	do 1,049
Dried fruit .....	pounds 902	Shorts and bran .....	bushels 100,216
Wheat .....	do 256	Shorts and bran .....	sacks 70
Rye .....	do 352	Shorts and bran .....	pounds 10,676
Corn .....	do 1,855	Tallow .....	do 700
Ground peas .....	do 1,490	Corn .....	bushels 17,915½
In the country:		Beef cattle .....	head 797
Salt beef .....	barrels 30	Hogs .....	do 398
Salt beef .....	pounds 45,904	Sheep .....	do 102
Salt pork .....	do 5,377	Goats .....	do 3
Bacon .....	do 3,098	Wheat .....	bushels 6,023
Lard .....	barrels 5		

Amount of cash on hand, \$136,438.42.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
H. C. GUERIN,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Fort Johnson, January 8, 1864.*

Maj. JOHN M. OTEY,  
*Assistant-Adjutant-General:*

Your communication of the 6th instant, calling my attention to the "culpable haste and want of judgment and discretion shown by the batteries at Fort Johnson in firing upon Fort Sumter on the night of the 3d instant," has been received. The firing that night was from Fort Johnson battery proper. Three guns were fired well to the right of Sumter; there were no other guns fired from any other battery. I regret that even such was the case, and particularly so as under the circumstances it might have been attended with most serious consequences. At the same time I must, if possible, relieve myself of the severe censure placed upon me by the commanding general.

On receiving notice on that night that our boats intended operating around Sumter, I saw Captain Fleming, the officer commanding the artillery, myself, informed him of the fact, and at the same time gave him most particular instructions for that night. He informs me that he informed the officer immediately in charge of the bat-

tery. To my surprise, while visiting the picket, I heard the discharge of three guns, and immediately ran to the battery and stopped the firing, sent for Captain Fleming, and ordered him to immediately investigate the matter, which he did, and his statement I have the honor herewith to inclose.

The officer in charge of the battery, Lieutenant Halsey, Second South Carolina Artillery, had but recently come to this post. I am informed he is a good officer, energetic and prompt in the discharge of his duties, but being unaccustomed to the signals, &c., permitted this unfortunate mistake. He states that he firmly believed that there was an attack upon Fort Sumter at the time, and consequently fired, which was virtually a disobedience of orders, but under the circumstances I did not think the interest of the service demanded his arrest, but called his attention to the facts, and cautioned him against a recurrence. I take this opportunity of saying that since I have been in the service I have devoted my whole time and energy to what I believed to be the faithful discharge of my duties, and was in hopes that I had elicited the confidence of my commanding officers; but having been the subject of recent reprimands for acts committed which I believed to be right, and at the same time feeling the importance of my present command, I respectfully ask, if there is any want of confidence on the part of the commanding general in my ability or willingness to discharge the duties of my office, that I be relieved from command and a more competent officer placed in charge, as I am aware that personal sacrifice should be made for the public good.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH A. YATES,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 11, 1864.

The explanation furnished by Lieutenant-Colonel Yates having placed the blame on whom it properly belongs, of course he is relieved of any censure contained in the communication from these headquarters. I can see no good reason for acceding to his request to be relieved from his present command.

G. T. B.,

*General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY,

*Fort Johnson, January 7, 1864.*

Lieut. C. S. FINDLAY,

*Acting Adjutant of Post:*

SIR: I have the honor to forward the report of Lieutenant Halsey, Company A, Second Regiment Artillery, who was in charge of the battery on the night of the 3d instant, explaining why he opened fire on Fort Sumter.

I would most respectfully state, in addition to Lieutenant Halsey's explanation, that positive instructions on that night were given by the commanding officer of artillery not to fire unless the signals were made from Sumter, but it appears by his action that he could not fully have understood the orders issued. It probably may be



a palliating circumstance that this company to which this officer is attached had just reported to take the place of Captain Mathewes' artillery, and had not become familiarized with the duties and orders of the post.

I would also state that, however erroneous may have been the officer's judgment in the case, yet I believe his action was prompted by the best motives, and although under a wrong impression, he thought that he was performing his duty.

The sentinel who made the false report was punished and the officer would have been arrested, but an order was received on the morning of the 4th instant rendering it necessary to send a portion of his company to take charge of Battery Cheves, as Captain Billopp had been ordered away. There being but 2 officers with Company A, Lieutenant Halsey was obliged to be kept on duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FLEMING,  
*Captain, Commanding Artillery.*

[Sub-inclosure.]

BATTERY CHEVES,  
*James Island, January 7, 1864.*

Maj. HENRY BRYAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I respectfully beg leave to report that I was in charge of the battery at Fort Johnson on the night of the 3d instant which opened upon Sumter. My reasons for opening were that I firmly believed the fort was attacked by the enemy. I was aware that our boats were at the fort, and trailed my guns to the right to avoid striking them.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

M. P. HALSEY,  
*Second Lieutenant Company A, Second Artillery.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *January 8, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN:

GENERAL: Captain Behré, post commissary, reports that the meat rations at his depot have totally failed, and that the commissary (Major Molloy) in Charleston informs him that he cannot be supplied to-morrow, and does not know when he will be able to do so.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 8, 1864.*

Maj. H. C. GUERIN,  
*Chief of Subsistence, Charleston, S. C.:*

MAJOR: The commanding general has read your indorsement of the 7th instant on the statements of subsistence on hand in the First Military District, and I am instructed to say is unable to give his assent to your statement that there has been a virtual suspension of

the impressment law as a consequence of General Orders, No. 144, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, series 1863, for he is constrained to believe the fault is in the defective manner in which the system of impressments is applied. Middlemen can find supplies—can draw them out with the currency of the country—and it is believed that your department also can do the same by sending the necessary number of energetic agents into the proper quarter, especially since you can impress in hands of first owners, in which event you are obliged to have prices determined by the method prescribed in the law—that is, a local arbitration as to price. An attempt to override this provision of the law, it is believed, has been the fruitful source of nearly all of the trouble now experienced in the operations of your department.

It is not seen that the present difficulty arises from the currency, inasmuch as private speculations are based on it as well as on the operations of the Government. Of course it enhances the price of all articles.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

JANUARY 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Second in command, Savannah:*

GENERAL: The commanding general wishes to know if some way cannot be devised for destroying the enemy's dock-yards, machine shops, &c., at Scull Creek, either by an expedition specially organized for the purpose or by long-range rifled 32-pounders used as mortars, firing "liquid-fire shells" at from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 miles' range.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. JORDAN.

CHARLESTON, *January 9, 1864.*

General S. COOPER:

Weather very bad several days past; cold and clear to-day. Enemy's batteries all silent. Number of vessels of all kinds in Port Royal this morning reported at 120, of which 110 are transports.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, January 9, 1864.*

Col. J. GORGAS,  
*Chief of Ordnance, Richmond, Va.:*

COLONEL: I have delayed answering your letter of the 27th November, 1863, referring to the rifling and banding of 8-inch and 10-inch columbiads, until I could carefully reconsider my preconceived views and subject them to the test of actual experiment.

Up to this time, however, the enemy have not given me an opportunity of trying the 10-inch rifled and banded columbiads as fully as

I desire; but so far the results with the 8-inch rifled and banded pieces have been most satisfactory. Your letter alludes chiefly to the 10-inch gun, but as your objections and conclusions must apply equally to the 8-inch as to the 10-inch, I must acquaint you that an 8-inch gun, rifled and double banded, in position at Fort Moultrie, has been fired through some four or five different engagements, in all over 100 times, with shell weighing over 100 pounds and bolts 140 pounds, with most satisfactory results, giving a greater range with the same charges and less elevation than the smooth-bore, with shell and shot of less than half the weight. The gun is uninjured, and there is no apparent reason why it should not last a long time.

It is regarded by General Ripley as the best gun in the battery, and in action has an immediate effect upon the enemy's iron-clads, which always try to avoid it.

This having proved a success, three others of the same kind have been prepared and placed in position in the harbor batteries, but owing to the limited supply of projectiles a thorough test has not been applied. The charges used have been 8 pounds and 10 pounds of coarse-grained powder, and the range shows these to have been sufficient to give full velocity to the projectiles for distances of 1,000 yards.

Experience shows that a large quantity of powder gives no increase of range, and with a rifled gun little additional velocity.

General Ripley, in one of his reports, makes the following statement:

The Brooke gun at Fort Sumter was fired with 15 pounds of powder at 18 degrees elevation, and although the charge was less than the maximum it finally cracked through the vent, and the gun was condemned. Happening to be present I ordered a reduction in using the remaining gun of the same kind, and better ranges were obtained with 10 pounds of mixed coarse-grained and common cannon powder.

\* \* \* \* \*

With 20½ degrees a shell of 100 pounds was thrown 4 miles into the enemy's camp, and with 23 degrees it was thrown beyond Light-House Inlet and on Folly Island.

If the rifling and banding of the 8-inch and 10-inch columbiads is to be abandoned I consider it fortunate for Charleston that I have four of the former in position instead of the like number of smooth-bore 8-inch guns, which abundant experience here has demonstrated to be almost ineffective against iron-clads.

The experiment on 10-inch columbiads was first made with one which had a trunnion knocked off at Fort Sumter, and the rifling and banding of which was executed by a private firm. Another one was banded at the arsenal and rifled by the same parties who altered the first one. When finished I had the former mounted on Sullivan's Island and the latter on James Island. General Ripley writes as follows touching both:

They have both been tried, the latter *a* with a projectile invented by Captain Harding, weight about 215 pounds, and a Parrott projectile, weight about 250 pounds, and charges of 15 pounds and 16 pounds. With the latter excellent results were obtained. The former projectiles failed generally to take the grooves, and with 16 pounds broke up. The practice I have been informed has been delayed by the starting of one of the bands which was defectively welded, the gun itself being uninjured.

The other gun has been fired with 12 and 15 pounds of powder with Harding's projectiles only, others not having been furnished. Twelve hundred yards was

*a* One at Fort Johnson, banded at the arsenal.



obtained with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  degrees elevation and 12 pounds large-grained powder, when the projectiles took the grooves. With 15 pounds the projectile broke. The gun thus far is uninjured, and I have no doubt will continue so under any ordinary practice. This will be continued as soon as Parrott projectiles can be procured.

\* \* \* \* \*

If Parrott shot are provided, range, accuracy, weight, and velocity are obtained with safe charges, and from the effect of the 8-inch bolts on the monitors I believe one or two well-directed shots from the 10-inch rifles will drive any one of them out of action, and half a dozen permanently damage and sink them.

The two 10-inch columbiads selected for experiment weighed over 15,000 pounds before they were double-banded, and afterward, respectively, 22,000 pounds and 20,000 pounds.

As long, therefore, as we can get equal or greater ranges with the same elevations and charges with the rifled as with the smooth-bore guns and throw projectiles of more than double the weight with increased accuracy, it would seem advisable to continue the alteration of these guns of the same patterns and dates.

The principle of the Blakely gun has not been tried as yet with these columbiads, because they do very well when fired according to the ordinary method; but by the application of the principle I should hardly deem it jumping at a conclusion. Would it not be better than remaining in *statu quo*?

I cannot believe that it would have been advisable to wait for the elucidation of the matter by the United States Ordnance Bureau, from their trials with 10-inch guns at West Point, for we may depend upon it that if successful the first we shall know of the fact will be the transfer to Morris Island and continuance of their experiments on ourselves by heavy batteries of this description of ordnance. I prefer that we should try the experiment on our enemy rather than let him test it on us. *Fas est ab hoste doceri* is a good axiom in war, but not exactly in the way you propose.

I regard the projectiles of the Parrott pattern as entirely successful, and would recommend that they should be provided as speedily as possible for the guns now in readiness, made as light as is consistent with strength. The effect of the Yankee projectiles of this description here has fully demonstrated their peculiar value.

In your letter you write:

I have no objections to banding columbiads, either 8 or 10 inch, provided it be confined to guns for special service, and therefore limited to a few of each caliber.

The guns selected for the purpose were captured at Forts Moultrie and Sumter in April, 1861, of the very best iron, and superior to those now manufactured by the Ordnance Department of the Confederate States.

I do not say that these rifled and banded 8 and 10 inch guns are the best that can be made of their calibers, but, in my belief, they

*a* Some days later than the date of this report of General Ripley the following satisfactory results were obtained from the 10-inch rifled and banded gun in position on Sullivan's Island: Range of 5 shots: Elevation,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ; charge,  $15\frac{1}{2}$ ; weight, 231½ bolt; recoil, 4°, 9"; range in yards, 1,438.

The condition of the gun General Ripley reports as good as before it was fired; the projectiles took the grooves in every instance. They were all flat-headed bolts, which would not permit so good a range as with the pointed. The experiment is conceived to be sufficient to demonstrate the efficiency of the gun.

Experiments with the air chamber applied to a 32-pounder gun communicated to me by Major-General Maury, commanding Department of the Gulf, prove the value of the principle.

are the best we can get in the present condition of our manufacturing resources. It is proper to add that the number of guns at our disposal of the proper description for alteration is limited.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 9, 1864.*

Flag-Officer J. R. TUCKER,  
*Comdg. U. S. Naval Forces Afloat, Charleston:*

SIR: Your letter of this date has been received, and I shall be happy to do all in my power to afford assistance to Flag-Officer Ingraham in procuring fuel for naval purposes, to which end I have directed Major Lee, chief quartermaster, to confer at once with him, ascertain his wants, and take all practicable measures to meet them.

Unfortunately, however, we do not have direct control over the railroads, but it is hoped by proper management something material may be effected.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
No. 6. } *Lake City, Fla., January 9, 1864.*

1. In conformity with orders from department headquarters, commanding officers of posts from or near which vessels leave for foreign countries will be vigilant to prevent the passage of persons without proper papers, and will issue orders for the examination of vessels before their departure, and for the arrest of passengers on board without passports.

2. After this date no passports for foreign countries, other than those emanating from department headquarters, will be considered sufficient.

3. The proper officers and crew or ship's company, as ascertained by her papers or other satisfactory evidence, will be permitted to pass out on board their vessels, but vigilance will be used to prevent an abuse of this right.

4. The commanding officer at Camp Finegan will direct his provost officer on the train and officer commanding at Jacksonville to arrest all strangers found at that place, or on the way there, who are without proper passes from these headquarters. This paragraph does not refer to persons who are well known as citizens resident in the vicinity.

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By order of Brigadier-General Finegan:

W. CALL,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

JANUARY 10, 1864.

Col. D. B. HARRIS, *Chief of Engineers:*

COLONEL: The commanding general is informed that a portion of the piling on the Edisto River, which was removed by the enemy in

July last, has not been replaced; it is his wish that the gap shall be piled across as soon as practicable.

If practicable it is deemed desirable that the guns at Wilton's Bluff shall be so arranged as to command both the land and water approaches, and that rifle-pits shall be dug for infantry to prevent a recurrence of the scenes of July 10, 1863, when the enemy by landing below compelled its evacuation, the artillery having no support.

The commanding general also wishes about half a dozen torpedoes properly placed in each of the following streams: Ashpoo, the several creeks intersecting the road leading from Jacksonborough Ferry to Wilton's Bluff, and the Cheraw.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KEARNY.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
Charleston, S. C., January 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS,

*Commanding Sub-Marine Defenses:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to acknowledge the receipt of the report of Lieutenant Andrews of the 5th instant, and to say that the request of Lieutenant A. contained therein, to place torpedoes in the vicinity of Legareville and at various points near and below the enemy's obstructions in the Stono River, is approved and should be done as soon as practicable. Brigadier-General Hagood, commanding on James Island, will be instructed to commence a sham battery at or about Grimball's, or lower down, and to make demonstrations in that direction by night and by day in order to induce the Pawnee or some other boat to pass through the opening in the piling across the Stono, so she can shell the sham battery. She will, of course, come in contact with said torpedoes.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

J. M. OTEY.

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JANUARY 11, 1864.

Flag-Officer J. R. TUCKER,

*Commanding, Afloat:*

SIR: Your letter of this date has been received, and in reply I have to request that in view of contemplated operations, the nature of which has been explained to Mr. Toombs, you will delay the expedition suggested for three or four days.

Respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
Charleston, S. C., January 11, 1864.

Capt. JOHN JOHNSON,

*Engineer at Fort Sumter*

(Through Colonel Harris, chief engineer):

CAPTAIN: I am instructed by the commanding general to inform you that your request that "the desultory firing from our side be avoided, except in reply to the enemy, when they choose to open on



us," is approved, and that the commanding officers of the First and Seventh Military Districts have been instructed accordingly. You will please notify these headquarters when the nature of your operations will permit existing orders regulating firing to be resumed.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. OTEY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,

*Sullivan's Island, January 11, 1864.*

Capt. W. F. NANCE,

*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the result of my investigation of the mutinous disaffection believed to exist among the troops on this island.

The investigation, so far as the Twenty-second Regiment South Carolina Volunteers was concerned, was by no means satisfactory, in consequence of the absence of Major Rion, who is sick. I am satisfied, however, that there did exist, and still exists, in this regiment a rebellious state of feeling, the continuance of which was due to the inefficiency of the company officers; and I am forced to believe that some of these officers have endeavored to conceal the guilt of their men in the matter, while others made light of the whole affair, observing that "it was only talked of in fun."

The same state of feeling exists to a more alarming extent in the First Regiment [Regulars] South Carolina Infantry, produced, however, by a different cause—the belief of some of the men that their term of enlistment has expired.

There was also some slight discontent among several of the other commands, which, in my judgment, amounted to nothing more than a complaint that the meat ration was not furnished, and it is believed that this has been arrested by the removal of the cause.

A regard for the good of the service leads me respectfully and earnestly to recommend a thorough reorganization of the line officers, and the appointment of competent field officers, as the only adequate means to correct the disagreeable state of feeling existing in the Twenty-second Regiment South Carolina Volunteers.

I would also suggest the propriety of removing to a place of security several men belonging to the First Regiment of Infantry, now in confinement for mutinous conduct.

Respectfully submitted.

H. L. BENBOW,

*Colonel, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,

*Mount Pleasant, January 12, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the commanding general.

It was reported to me that there was a threatened mutiny among some of the troops on Sullivan's Island night before last. I have had the matter inquired into, and this report has been submitted by Colonel Benbow, as the result of his investigation. I earnestly hope

some action may be taken which will improve the condition of the Twenty-second Regiment. The men of the First South Carolina Infantry alluded to have been ordered to be sent to the provost-marshal in the city, under guard.

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 14, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant and Inspector General, with the following remarks, to wit:

First. The great want of field officers with the Twenty-second Regiment has been brought to the notice of the War Department on several previous occasions, particularly on the 9th of December, 1863. The colonel of this regiment was tried by court-martial on the 14th of May, 1863, from which time he has not been on duty with his command. The lieutenant-colonel has been suspended for months for utter incompetency. The major has been absent for nearly a year without leave. Major Rion, of the Seventh South Carolina Battalion, whom I placed in command of the regiment, and whom I have already recommended for its colonel, is now absent, sick. I earnestly request that steps may be taken to supply this regiment with competent field officers.

Second. The question that disturbs the First Regiment South Carolina Infantry (Butler's) has already been brought to the notice of the War Department.

Third. The insufficient supply of the meat ration was likewise the subject of papers sent forward on the 3d instant.

It is feared there will be a recurrence, under present arrangements, at an early day, of this cause of complaint. I hope that the War Department will take occasion to have these sources of trouble removed.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Third indorsement.]

Colonel PALFREY:

Let me have all the facts referred to by General Beauregard in his indorsement, especially his letter of December 9, 1863.

S. C.

[Fourth indorsement.]

Inclosed is a recommendation\* for an appointment of major to Twenty-second South Carolina. Applications for the appointment of Major Rion as colonel of this regiment were submitted to Secretary on December 16.

R.

[Fifth indorsement.]

The letter of December 9, alluded to in the within indorsement, is not on file in this office.

ED. A. PALFREY.

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\* Not found.

CHARLESTON, *January 12, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General :*

Troops on James Island have been several days without meat of any kind. Major Guerin says does not know when they can be supplied. Several other rations are insufficient. Major Guerin is utterly unsuited for chief commissary of this State. A man of foresight, energy, activity, and system is indispensable for that position. Unless one is furnished great distress and dissatisfaction must ensue.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,

*January 15, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded to the Commissary-General.

By command of Secretary of War :

H. L. CLAY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,

*January 16, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War, through the Adjutant-General.

A glance at the map, a year ago exhibiting the most fruitful parts of the Confederacy (in subsistence stores) as cut off, desolated, or occupied by the enemy, with the knowledge that every cotton State drew most of its agricultural animals and much of its meat and flour from the north and west, would have satisfied an inquiring observer that privation was before us. Attention to the other influences of a less palpable character would produce gratification that the point of severe privations to our troops had been postponed so long.

South Carolina, especially before the war, was largely dependent on external sources. Supplies for the troops of meat and breadstuff have been drawn from beyond her borders, while corn has been sent from that State by the quartermaster department in Virginia.

Georgia and Florida have since the loss of Middle Tennessee been obliged to divert immense quantities, previously disposable for the troops in General Beauregard's department, for the Army of Tennessee, whose position as to climate and exposure require more than those south. General Beauregard's writings and orders which have reached this Bureau indicate a want of information respecting the existing condition of the country, and the effect of the feelings and fears of the people for food, the influence of the laws and orders, the currency and limitation of prices for public purchases, and the condition of the railroad, all of which causes have much restricted the efforts of the commissariat in all the States, managed by men of "foresight, energy, activity, and system," well fitted for the place, as Major Guerin is.

Had General Beauregard's orders respecting the management of the commissariat been observed, it would have been impossible to keep up the supply of beeves from Florida as long as has been done,



and the supply of the bread ration must have failed likewise, while as long as these supplies were kept up his men would have been the purveyors of corn grits and salt to the people of the country or thrown them away.

General Beauregard wanted a loyal staff officer, selected by himself, placed as chief over the officers previously in charge of the commissariat, which is contrary to the principles on which disbursing bureaus are organized. When men think that sufficient efforts have not been made to provide what is due, dissatisfaction will ensue. If orders of the commanding officer imply distrust of the staff officers, and are threatening to them, that is fostered, and if he issues illegal orders, which have to be annulled, respecting the commissariat, they are sure to be dissatisfied. I believe if the officers were instructed as to the true condition, the men would be made to understand it, and would uncomplainingly endure much privation when inevitable.

In this connection I refer to a letter written by me and filed in the War Department in response to an indorsement of General Beauregard on a paper addressed to Major Guerin, signed "Thomas Jordan, chief of staff."

Major Guerin has long foreseen the impending want of meat, and for over a twelvemonth has used exertions to provide an equivalent of breadstuff for deficiency in the meat ration, so that no disaster might arise from want of nutrition.

General Beauregard put charges against Major Guerin, one of which was incompetency, since which time on several occasions repetitions in substance of the within declarations have appeared. On 22d of March, the Commissary-General of Subsistence, in a letter to Adjutant and Inspector General, in reference to these charges, stated that Major Guerin was either much wronged or deserved dismissal, urging that General Beauregard be called on to prefer his charges against him, and that they be subjected to military investigation. In relation to the troops on James Island, they are really better off than those of the Army of Northern Virginia, being nearer the source of supplies from whence corn for the army has to be drawn. My report of November 15 is referred to.

In connection with letter of 22d of March, above referred to, I again call attention to a letter received from General Thomas Jordan, chief of staff, dated November 18, 1863, and referred by this Bureau to the Secretary of War, asking what are the functions of a chief of staff, and by what right he claims the exercise of authority over the officers of this Bureau. I request special consideration of that letter and my two indorsements on the same, and also to my letter addressed to the Adjutant and Inspector General, dated December 7, 1863, in response to an indorsement of General Beauregard on a letter signed by "Thomas Jordan, chief of staff," and dated November 20, 1863.

The within paper, signed J. R. Robertson, indorsed by General Beauregard, refers to the same subject as this telegram, and is best answered in connection.

General Beauregard remarks, on Major Guerin's allusion to the remedy connected with the currency, that the "middlemen, speculators, purchase with the same currency which Major Guerin regards as another source of difficulty." This remark shows that General Beauregard knows but little of the effect of the laws and other influences bearing on the subject above recited, which have rendered

it impossible for the commissaries in any of the States to get for the Government even a fair proportion of the supplies at points from whence they can be transported, or of those which are scanty in the country.

General Beauregard here admits that he "may be mistaken about Major Guerin," but asks that one "more acceptable" to himself may be put in his place. Four days after, on this telegram, he resumes the style of condemnation begun eleven months ago, when he sought the appointment of Colonel Walker. If acts showing "incompetency" or "neglect of duty" alleged so long ago and sought for could have been sustained they would have been specified.

The only soap and candle factory in the State depended on the manager, an expert, long engaged in it, and now ordered back to his company.

Whisky is not a ration, and some impressed which belonged to the Hon. Mr. Gilmer, of North Carolina, has been ordered to be returned in kind by General Beauregard's authority, but resisted by this Bureau. The good of the service requires that commanding generals should make themselves familiar with the condition of the country and the details they may have to deal with, otherwise they do harm to the service.

Respectfully,

L. B. NORTHROP,  
*Commissary-General of Subsistence.*

JANUARY 12, 1864.

EDITORS OF COURIER AND MERCURY :

GENTLEMEN : I am directed by the commanding general to request that no allusion be made in any of the issues of your papers to the falling of several of the Yankee shells in the neighborhood of the Blakely gun.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. C. GILCHRIST.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICT,  
*Adams' Run, S. C., January 12, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL : In reply to your communication of 10th instant, received to-day, I beg to report that we have 100 men and 8 carpenters at work upon the batteries at Willstown. We are strengthening the positions for the siege guns, laying off the ground for a full battery of field pieces to defend the land side, and will connect those works by a long line of rifle-pits with the heavy battery at Pineberry, making the roads as fast as practicable.

Second. We are also at work at the defile of Slann's Island, fortifying its flanks and connecting them by roads and rifle-pits with Pineberry.

Third. We are starting a fatigue party at work at Simmon's Bluff, which will consist chiefly of negro laborers belonging to Private Wilson, detailed from the Rebel Troop to superintend them.

The roads are beginning to be very bad, have to be hauled over very much, and a large portion of our force is taken to get forage and provisions.

I have notified several slaveholders, and will try to notify all, not to remove their Government-working hands from this district, and have just received orders for the engineers to that effect. The commanding general may rely on the promptitude and energy of this command to do all in its power with its means. Now we are beginning to work, as we are just furnished with tools.

I have ordered all the old iron to be picked up at and about deserted houses on John's Island and elsewhere throughout the district. Have gotten this morning from Jehossee Island some valuable tools and iron, all of which will be noted and accounted for to Governor Aiken, the reputed owner.

Captain Schulz has been ordered to aid the working party at Willstown all in his power, Captain Kanapaux to aid those on Slann's Island defile, and Captain Charles to afford all the force he can spare to mend roads and bridges.

I respectfully ask that this communication may be laid before the commanding general for his information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 13, 1864.*

Flag-Officer J. R. TUCKER,

*Comdg. C. S. Naval Forces, Charleston :*

SIR : My extreme solicitude for the defense of this position, jointly intrusted to our care by our respective Departments, must be my excuse for venturing any suggestions touching matters exclusively within your control as the naval commander in these waters.

Inasmuch as the scarcity of fuel is a great and increasing element of difficulty with you, and as, with our batteries in their present condition of strength, there is little probability of an attempt on the part of the enemy to force his way past them in the daytime, I am induced to suggest that steam shall only be made at night (except in an emergency) for the present, the period when any attack may reasonably be expected.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. SIXTH MIL. DIST., DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, &C.,  
*January 13, 1864.*

Col. W. B. TABB,

*Commanding, &c. :*

COLONEL : Your views of the changes in the disposition of troops are in the main approved, and especially in regard to the fatigue parties which must now be ordered to construct the works at and about Church Flats.

First. The disposition of the Twenty-sixth [Virginia] Regiment and of Captain Rickenbaker's company will remain as at present.

Second. The company of the Fifty-ninth [Virginia] Regiment to support the artillery under Major Jenkins must remain as it is.



Third. The company heretofore ordered to picket in front of Chaplain's and Church Flats may be removed to Church Creek bridge, and to do whatever is required to make bridges over Church and Bohicket Creeks, in order to shorten the route from Church Flats to Major Jenkins' headquarters, or to the Haulover and Aberpoolie, and to make a road of retreat from the east side of John's Island without making the detour around the heads of Bohicket and Church Creeks.

Fourth. The picket on Rutledge's Island may for the present be drawn in.

Fifth. Let a detail of a non-commissioned officer and 3 men be made permanently to constitute a guard of stores and premises at Rantowles Station.

Sixth. Let the company at Chaplain's be drawn in to Church Flats for the present.

Seventh. Explore and report whether and where a bridge can be constructed over Log Bridge Creek to connect Church Flats with Chaplain's. That creek can easily be and is now crossed below the Savannah turnpike. You forget that the road to Church Flats passes below that turnpike from Rantowles Station, and it may be made to pass much lower down the creek.

Eighth. Pickets on the Stono and Kiawah do not guard approaches from Wadmalaw Island, the landings at Rockville, or Bear's Bluff. The company for fatigue on bridges over Church and Bohicket Creeks will picket the defiles there.

Ninth. Tools, shovels, spades, and axes, and the engineer in charge, Mr. Tennent, will be sent to Church Flats to construct works for the West Sub-Military District. The necessary details of from 80 to 100 men will be made under 2 commissioned officers to superintend the works, under instructions from the engineer. The company at King's corn-fields will furnish its quota of detail.

Tenth. These changes will be reported to the commanding general by those headquarters, and the tools and implements must be strictly guarded and accounted for.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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HDQRS. SECOND DISTRICT, GEORGIA STATE GUARDS,  
*Savannah, January 13, 1864.*

Capt. GEORGE A. MERCER,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: It becomes my duty to apprise you of the fact that I am in receipt of a letter from Major-General Cobb, commanding State Guard, which settles the question as to the time when the troops under my command are to be mustered out of service. Their term will expire at the close of six months from the date of their original muster-rolls. The result will be that in the earlier days of February next the regiments and battalions now near Savannah will have ceased to exist. I beg that this fact may be brought at once to the attention of the commanding general.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. JACKSON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding Second District.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Savannah, January 14, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the commanding general.

J. F. GILMER,  
*Major-General, Second in Command.*

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 18, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the War Department.

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*  
(In temporary absence of the commanding general.)

[Third indorsement.]

JANUARY 28, 1864.

CONSCRIPT BUREAU:

Measures to enroll conscripts should be taken.

J. A. S.,  
*Secretary.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION,  
*Richmond, January 30, 1864.*

Respectfully returned to the War Department, with the information that the commandant of conscripts for Georgia has been instructed, with the concurrence of the Governor, to enroll all persons in the State Guard liable to military service before it is disbanded.

JNO. S. PRESTON,  
*Colonel and Superintendent.*

HDQRS. TWENTY-FIRST SOUTH CAROLINA VOLS.,  
*James Island, January 13, 1864.*

Capt. H. WEMYSS FEILDEN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: Yours of the 6th instant, addressed to me at Columbia, was received by me yesterday at this place, and I have the honor to reply. The "extensive works unmasked on Little Folly Island next to Morris Island," on the morning of the 9th July, 1863, had the appearance to me of regular sand batteries. I could plainly see what appeared to me to be magazines, and the "works" appeared to be built for artillery. No guns were visible, however. No works on Little Folly Island were to be seen from Morris Island prior to the 9th July. But the activity of the enemy and the sounds at night, as if they were engaged at work, induced me to believe that they were putting up works. If I mistake not, information was received from Secessionville that the enemy were at work behind the woods

on Little Folly, and on more than one occasion I directed the batteries on Morris Island to shell that portion of Little Folly Island.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. F. GRAHAM,

*Colonel Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C. *January 14, 1864—8 p. m.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va. :*

Report from Port Royal says :

One monitor and thirty-five vessels have left harbor during fog, probably with troops ; destination unknown.

Enemy's fire on city from Morris Island still continues, with little damage.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 14, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,

*Commanding, &c., Wilmington, N. C. :*

One monitor and thirty-five vessels reported to have left Port Royal for destination unknown ; supposed to be waters of Savannah. Anything stirring in your vicinity ?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 14, 1864—8 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,

*Second in command, Savannah, Ga. :*

Report from Port Royal says :

One iron-clad and thirty-five vessels have left harbor during fog, probably with troops.

Keep bright lookout in direction of Wassaw and Ossabaw and telegraph me any news.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. SIXTH MIL. DIST., DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, &c.,

*January 14, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Commanding, &c. :*

GENERAL : I received your telegram this evening, and beg you to believe that I hardly feel deserving of your praise for promptitude in the progress of our defensive works on these lines. We have barely prepared to begin, so tardy have been the supplies of every necessary for our works. First, we needed tools and transportation, and have just fairly gotten them. The weather of late has dampened literally every effort to begin the collection of materials, and now we need laborers. I am encouraged, however, to expect some slaves and free negroes soon, in addition to the details of troops I have ordered and which I will soon strengthen. And I am relieved by saying that the main consideration of what ought to be and must



be done is accomplished, in my own mind, at least, and is now submitted to your review. Permit me to premise that what I have so far found done on these outer lines I count as just simply worse than nothing. The labor has been wasted, in any aspect, either whether we mean merely to picket these outer lines or mean to make a stand upon them before we fall back. Every work I have seen too plainly indicated that it was never meant to be held a moment by an inferior against a superior force. If so, it ought never to have been constructed, for it is no better than the field of defense itself, and if not so, I have yet to see the first work at all tenable. I count all the old works from the Edisto to Church Flats, then, as but a nucleus for new works now to be begun, and there are no works on John's Island. To these localities alone my attention as yet has been directed, and to these my present observations are meant to be applied. I observe, first, then, that the lines from Aberpoolie Creek, on the Stono, to Willstown, on the Edisto, are tenable, and ought to be held stubbornly, and ought to be speedily constructed to that end. If strengthened properly and promptly they will greatly magnify the strength of a comparatively small number of any well-appointed troops. How? They must be taken in connection with the works on James Island and with the works at the overflow.

First. I would begin on the Stono at Saxby or J. A. Fripp's, and locate there a heavy battery, another at J. Grimbald's Point, another at Sol. Legar's, and another at the junction of Little and Big Aberpoolie, on the north side. These four heavy batteries should be strong.

Second. I would construct strong field-works at the head of the Aberpoolie Creek, near Dr. Roper's; thence run a line of field-works northwest across to the Bohicket road at Dr. J. L. Stevens', covering and crossing Bugbee Bridge; thence running on the north side of the eastern branch of Bohicket to J. R. Wilson's, jr., at the forks of Bohicket Creek, and there would construct another causeway and bridge; thence up the western branch of Bohicket, on the east side, nearly north, to the old causeway at Burrell's; thence across Church Creek, bridging it well, to Mary Ann's Point, and thence down that creek, on the north side, to J. J. Chisolm's or bridge at Jenkins' Bluff, repairing that bridge; thence to the mouth of Church Creek, and crossing the New Cut to J. Seabrook's, at which two points I would put heavy batteries, making the whole line to correspond with works to Church Flats one way and with works to Meggett's the other way.

Third. Thence the line north of the Wadmalaw and Edisto from Meggett's to Young's Island; thence to Torgoodoo Neck; thence to forks of Torgoodoo; thence to Ashe's; thence to Little Brittain, to Tom's Point, to Slann's Island Creek defile, to Pineberry, at the house point and in the marshes, and thence to Willstown, where I would recommend strong combined field and heavy works.

The distance on John's Island would be about 13 miles from Saxby, on the Stono, to Wadmalaw Sound, and from J. Seabrook's, opposite the mouth of Church Creek, to Willstown, about 15 miles, say the whole distance 30 miles, with seven heavy batteries and a line of field-works, not exceeding 12 miles. This would complete a continuous line from Sullivan's Island to the Edisto, and would make that river defensible up to Jacksonborough.

Is the work too much for our force? Not in its cardinal points if I can get tools and transportation for, say, 500 negroes, if the enemy will let us alone and we can have tolerable weather and good superintendents and strong support from you for sixty days. Thus you see, sir, that, though my project of works may be too grand for my army, I have not been idle in surveying the field of labor. With energy and enterprise there is no telling how many links of this line we may fill in, and every link we make is equal to recruiting forces faster, I fear, than we will get them from the "forced loans" of substitutes and exempts.

I send this outline of outer lines for your glance before we meet, which I hope will be soon. I have not vexed you with the processes by which I have come to conclusions, nor with reasons for them. My object is to prepare your mind for them when I can explain, map in hand. I will cheerfully do the work as you may order it, and I cannot omit to thank you for the confidence in my counsel expressed by allowing me the opportunity of conference with Colonel Harris, with whom I will co-operate with great pleasure, as well as deference.

I am, general, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, &C.,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 24, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Colonel Harris, for his views.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,  
*Charleston, February 19, 1864.*

Respectfully returned, with remarks inclosed.

D. B. HARRIS,  
*Colonel and Chief Engineer.*

[Inclosure.]

OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 19, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,

*Comdg. Dept. S. C., Ga., and Fla., Charleston, S. C. :*

GENERAL: I have the honor to state, in reply to your indorsement on Brigadier-General Wise's communication of the 14th of January, that I examined, between the 15th and 20th of January, in company with General Wise, that portion of the line referred to in his communication from Meggett's to Willstown, and gave such instructions (General Wise concurring) to the engineer in charge as I thought advisable. I have not yet examined the line across John's Island, because, as I verbally informed General Wise at that time, it would be impracticable, if advisable, with the very limited amount of labor at our disposal, to undertake its construction. We have not been able, in consequence of the dispersion of our negro labor from Christ

Church Parish to the Savannah River, to construct the bridge over the Stono near Battery Pringle and the tête-de-pont in advance I ordered on the 12th December last. When that is done it will prevent the enemy from advancing, except in force, on John's Island, and that he is not likely to do unless he elects that mode of approach to Charleston. In that event we had better rely, with the men and means at your disposal, upon our present defensive lines in rear of the Stono and along the inundation, than upon any others we could construct in advance of them.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. HARRIS,  
*Colonel and Chief Engineer of Department.*

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, &C.,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 20, 1864.*

I concur in the views of Colonel Harris.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *January 14, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN :

Colonel Simonton informs me that he has learned emphatically that a torpedo expedition will go down the Stono to-night. Please inform me at once if it be so, as the pickets should be notified.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

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HEADQUARTERS,  
*Savannah, Ga., January 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff, Charleston, S. C. :*

GENERAL : The past two or three days have brought to light a bad state of affairs here. Among the troops stationed at the batteries on Rose Dew Island, mouth of the Little Ogeechee River, there are at least a few men of bad spirit who have been attempting to excite the troops there and at other points around Savannah to acts of insubordination and desertion. It is to be feared even that a spirit of discontent has spread throughout the whole command at Rose Dew, extending possibly to other companies.

As reported by a corporal stationed at Beaulieu, the conspirators proposed to march away from their post on the island yesterday evening, going in a body with their arms to the interior of this State. They expressed themselves tired of the war and said they thought such a step on their part would end it. A secret oath had been exacted of all admitted to their confidence not to divulge their intentions.

Believing these reports might be well founded, I advised Brigadier-General Mercer, commanding the District of Georgia, to send Colonel Olmstead's regiment and a part of Colonel Gordon's command



last evening to take position near the Little Ogeechee to observe the enemy in his threatened advance from that quarter, with private instructions to watch the garrison at Rose Dew Island.

These dispositions were made and the suspected troops watched. No movement was attempted by them during the night.

By order of General Mercer a board of officers is now engaged in a rigid investigation of the whole matter, and as soon as the facts are known the guilty men will be arrested and placed in close confinement for trial and punishment. This spirit of discontent has ripened into an intent to desert under the influence of idleness, a want of active service for officers and men, and I am satisfied it will be best to exchange some of the troops here for others, sending the disaffected to Charleston or some other point where they will be in the presence of the enemy.

The companies at Rose Dew are Company F (Capt. J. W. Anderson), Company I (Captain Elkins), Fifty-fourth Georgia Regiment, and Jackson Guards (Captain Tanner), who claims to belong to the Fourth Florida Battalion, but is considered here as commanding an independent company. There are two other companies of the Fifty-fourth Georgia Regiment here, commanded by Captains Russell and Brantley; the latter is with the siege train.

As a change of duty may be the means of improving the tone of these disaffected troops, I propose to order the four companies of Colonel Way's regiment, Fifty-fourth Georgia, and the Jackson Guards, Captain Tanner, to the Third Military District of South Carolina, and replace them here by the Twelfth Georgia Battalion, Major Hanvey.

The Fifty-seventh Georgia Regiment should be sent on duty in presence of the enemy, say at Charleston or some other point, and another regiment sent here to replace it. The men of this regiment complain, as stated by Brigadier-General Colston, that they were not properly exchanged after their capture at Vicksburg. Will the commanding general take these troops to Charleston and send a good regiment to replace them here? If this cannot be done, perhaps an exchange might be arranged so as to bring a regiment from the Army of Tennessee or from Virginia.

The inclosed report from Brigadier-General Colston gives a clear statement of what has transpired up to this hour, and I concur fully in the recommendations therein made. Prompt action will probably be the means of avoiding future trouble, and add to the general efficiency of our available strength.

The individuals found guilty of exciting their companions in arms to discontent and desertion should be promptly punished.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. F. GILMER,

*Major-General and Second in Command.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS COLSTON'S BRIGADE,

*January 14, 1864.*

Capt. G. A. MERCER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: On Tuesday, 12th instant, a communication was received from Captain Hanleiter, commanding Beaulieu Battery, to the effect that a non-commissioned officer had informed him of the existence of a

plot among the garrison at Rose Dew, the purpose of which was to abandon the post at Rose Dew with arms, ammunition, &c., to win over the troops at Beaulieu if possible, to advance toward Savannah, taking with them the Terrell Artillery at White Bluff, whose adhesion was considered certain, also some State troops camped on the Skidaway road, and to come to the camp of the Fifty-seventh Georgia, upon whom they seemed to rely as ready to join them, the whole to make their way to the interior of the country, their avowed purpose being to induce by their example as many of the troops as possible to imitate them and by refusing to bear arms any longer "to put an end to the war." The plot was to be executed on last night. I immediately sent Capt. W. T. Taliaferro, my assistant adjutant-general, to Beaulieu and Rose Dew to investigate the matter. In the mean time an order was sent from district headquarters for the arrest of Private Coleman, Company F, Fifty-fourth Georgia, and he was sent on to the barracks at Savannah. From the result of investigations made by Major Hartridge, commanding at Rose Dew, and Captain Taliaferro it became evident that the plot, which at first appeared so improbable, did really exist.

On yesterday I ordered about 300 men from the First Georgia Regiment and the First Florida Battalion, under the command of Colonel Olmstead, First Georgia, to repair to the causeway connecting Rose Dew Island with the mainland and cut off the communication between the two. Captain Guerard's battery of artillery was ordered to support him. One hundred and fifty men from the Sixty-third Georgia Regiment, under Major Allen, were ordered to report to Colonel Olmstead. These movements of troops were made ostensibly for the purpose of meeting some demonstrations of the enemy by way of the Ogeechee.

No attempt of any kind was made on last night by the garrison at Rose Dew. The arrest of Coleman and the concentration of troops has evidently frustrated the design, but from the report of Sergeant Hinson to Captain Tanner (Jackson Guards, at Rose Dew), the attempt was not given up until late yesterday evening. Another non-commissioned officer confessed last night to Captain Tanner that nearly the whole company had agreed to go off that night. All the parties concerned were pledged to secrecy by an oath.

A board has been ordered by district headquarters to investigate further into the matter. The troops sent to Rose Dew to check any attempt will remain there until further orders. I would respectfully offer the following suggestions :

First. That a court-martial be convened forthwith for the immediate trial of the parties implicated ; that the proceedings of this court be revised at once by the proper authority and the sentences be immediately carried into effect. A terrible and very prompt punishment is indispensable in such an extreme case.

Second. That the troops at Rose Dew be removed from that post and their place supplied by others upon whom reliance can be placed.

Third. That the Fifty-seventh Georgia Regiment be transferred either to the Army of Tennessee or of Virginia. The spirit of this regiment (the Fifty-seventh Georgia) is bad. The troops say that they have never been properly exchanged, and the impression prevails, probably with good reason, that they will not fight if brought before the enemy. They are demoralized by the influence of home, to which they are too near, their friends and relatives persuading them that they have not been properly exchanged and ought to be at

home. Their presence here may have a bad effect upon the other troops and their spirit and tone may be improved by removal to more distant points.

It will be necessary, of course, to send other troops in the place of those removed.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

R. E. COLSTON,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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JANUARY 15, 1864.

Col. D. B. HARRIS,  
*Chief Engineer:*

COLONEL: The commanding general wishes torpedoes properly placed in the Ogeechee River. Mr. Toombs, engineer, C. S. Navy, in charge of the David, has been instructed to apply to you for information as to the position of the torpedoes in the Wappoo.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KEARNY.

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JANUARY 15, 1864.

Mr. TOOMBS,  
*Engineer, C. S. Navy, Charleston, S. C.:*

SIR: The commanding general instructs me to inform you that there are torpedoes in the Wappoo. Col. D. B. Harris, chief engineer, will, upon application, point out their positions to you.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KEARNY.

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CHARLESTON, *January 15, 1864.*

General JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I was in Augusta on the 13th instant, and had a conversation with Captain Parker, provost-marshal, and Captain Wood, enrolling officer. They have been apprised of the intended stampede of the Jews, and have promised to devise the best means in their power to prevent it. They have 2 men detailed as detectives, who are well acquainted in Augusta. These men, with a sufficient guard on the trains, would prove invaluable.

Captain Parker says he has plenty of men to do this, and has asked Colonel Rains to permit him to use them in that way, but Colonel Rains refused. He asked me to tell you in order that you would order this to be done. The guard I spoke of in my last report are still doing good work in Augusta. I have also the pleasure to report that I have accomplished the arrest of a notorious rascal named George Allen, who I have been after for some [time], and who has traveled since the battle of Shiloh on forged papers as an officer in the army. He has been conscripted.

Very respectfully,

H. J. KLINCK,  
*Special Officer.*



RICHMOND, VA., *January 17, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Commanding, Charleston, S. C. :*

GENERAL : The papers referred by you to this office, with your remarks thereon, under date December 16,\* relating to the arrest and trial of Brigadier-General Evans, have been laid before the President. After full consideration of the case, the length of time General Evans, by his own statement, has been in arrest (since September 15), and his acquittal by the court, the President is forced to require his immediate release from arrest, if he has not already been released, and that the final order in respect to his trial be at once issued.

In respect to his disqualifications as commander of a brigade, I am instructed to refer you to the "Act to relieve the army of disqualified, disabled, and incompetent officers," approved October 13, 1862, the first and second sections of which act make it the duty of commanding generals of departments to appoint examining boards to examine into the cases of such officers as may be brought to their attention, for the purpose of determining their qualifications for the discharge of the duties properly appertaining to their several positions.

The President conceives that it would be unjust to assign this officer to another command until he has an opportunity under the act above referred to to acquit himself of the disqualifications charged against him.

Very respectfully, &c., your obedient servant,  
S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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CHARLESTON, *January 17, 1864.*

General S. COOPER :

General Beauregard went this morning to Savannah. No developments of enemy's purposes.

THOS. JORDAN.

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SAVANNAH, *January 18, 1864.*  
(Received 19th.)

General S. COOPER :

All quiet here. Nothing seen of enemy's fleet, which left Hilton Head few days since. It has gone north, light, for troops and supplies. Number which started with it stopped at Charleston.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,  
*Richmond, Va., January 19, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Charleston, S. C. :*

Information just received from a gentleman certainly reliable, and who believes it undoubted, having been obtained from an officer of the U. S. Navy, that enemy are organizing and intending hostile

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\* See Vol. XXVIII, Part II, p. 585.

attack on Savannah, designing to withdraw for that purpose suddenly their force from before Charleston. I can but fear this may be information to mislead, but coming as it does, I communicate it for your information. General Maury telegraphs enemy's fleet of twenty-three vessels to have passed from New Orleans toward Pensacola. This may have some connection.

J. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 19, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Commanding First Military District:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to inform you that he wishes to place no obstacle in the way of blockade-running steamers entering the port of Charleston. With this view he desires you to issue instructions to your command that a single steamer per night may always be allowed to pass our batteries without molestation from our guns or pickets. Those parties who have applied to these headquarters for information on the subject of entering the port of Charleston have been informed that our guns will not open on them, provided that more than one steamer does not attempt to run in on the same night.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. WEMYSS FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

RICHMOND, VA., *January 20, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Comdg. Dept. of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida:*

GENERAL: On the 23d December, 1863, I addressed you the following telegraphic dispatch:

I have received no return of your command by brigades. Without such return it is impossible to fulfill the obligations imposed on this office. Please cause me to be furnished with return by brigades, exhibiting their component parts and the names and rank of commanding officers.

This dispatch was sent in consequence of the President's order to me—

To report on the organization of General Beauregard's command in connection with the proposition to increase the number of brigadier-generals.

The act of March 6, 1861, "To provide for the public defense," authorizes the President to organize regiments into brigades and brigades into divisions, and is the act which is relied on for the appointment of brigadier and major generals.

In answer to my dispatch I received yours of the same date, stating:

The last return from this department will furnish very near the present strength of this command; near enough for any practical purpose.

That return was received a few days after the date of your dispatch, but it did not meet the call. It exhibited the command according to districts, but not according to brigades, and was made

on one of the printed blanks furnished from this office, and which required that these returns should be made according to brigades, divisions, and army corps.

The call of the President on me for the information sought caused me to lay before him the two dispatches referred to and the substance of your return. He has returned them to me, with the following indorsement, which is referred to you for your consideration and action: "Require these returns to be made conformably to orders."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD SUB-DISTRICT,  
*John's Island, January 20, 1864.*

Capt. JAMES H. PEARCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: General Orders, Nos. 1 and 2, Adjutant and Inspector General, have been received per courier to-day and will be distributed immediately.

I applied, as per confidential correspondence, to Lieutenant-Colonel Jones for men and tools, and received a detail of 90 men, under charge of Lieutenants Talley and Moore, and 45 shovels, but there having been some delay for want of transportation for the tools and scarcity of rations for the men, we did not arrive at our destination until late last evening. The men being weary, I allowed them to rest until 4 o'clock this morning, when I commenced operations, and at sundown this evening M. A. Moore, a private of my company, acting engineer, reports the battery nearly completed; it is about 100 feet long, including the curtains on each end, and 30 feet deep. W. E. Fripp, another private of the scouts, has already constructed four Quaker guns with carriages, ready for mounting. They will be painted, &c. The battery was partially unmasked to-day to allow the enemy a glimpse of it, but they have not up to sunset taken any notice of it. The Pawnee came up as far as our batteries at Ladies Island, but did not proceed any farther up the river. I would respectfully suggest that the battery be allowed to remain in barbette until we ascertain that they have noticed us, and let them see the wheels of our Quakers. I will then slowly convert it into an embrasure battery to-morrow. I will mount a sentinel on the parapet who may attract attention by the glitter of his gun. Should that fail, with your permission I will take down one of the field pieces, put her in position between the Quakers, and open fire on the pickets at the point of Horse Island. The battery is built so as to be of actual use if necessary.

My duties at headquarters have compelled me to return from Grimball's, and I have ordered Captain Humphrey, Company F, Sixth Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, to take charge of the detachment and finish the work.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. L. WALPOLE,  
*Captain, Commanding Third Sub-District.*



[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICT,  
*Adams' Run, S. C., January 21, 1864.*

This report of Captain Walpole has just been received, and is respectfully forwarded. I approve of the report except the clause relative to the taking down of one of the field pieces, &c., and opening fire on the enemy, concerning which I await the advice of the commanding general.

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

The district commander will exercise his own discretion in the matter of the field piece.

T. JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 20, 1864.*  
 Maj. J. D. ASHMORE,  
*Commandant Post, Greenville, S. C. :*

MAJOR : I am directed by the commanding general to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, dated Greenville, giving information of a contemplated Union meeting, under the auspices of one Nathan McAlister, to be held in Anderson district on Saturday, the 23d instant. You must not interfere with the meeting, but endeavor to have at least two reliable and discreet witnesses present who will learn the object of it and the sentiments of the holders. It is almost unnecessary to add that these witnesses must be disguised. You must inform the State authorities through Governor Bonham of this feeling in Anderson district.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 20, 1864.*  
 Capt. W. L. SIMONS,  
*Acting Commissary of Subsistence, Anderson, S. C. :*

CAPTAIN : Your letter of the 15th instant to Major Ashmore, mentioning that a meeting is to be held in Anderson district on the 23d for the purpose of testing the Union sentiment in that section of country, has been forwarded to these headquarters.

The commanding general has issued instructions to Major Ashmore not to interfere with this meeting, but to have two reliable witnesses present who will be able to report the nature of the assemblage. In case the letter is delayed and does not reach Major Ashmore in time for action on the 23d instant, you had better send some reliable and discreet person or persons to be present and report the sentiments of the meeting.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SAVANNAH, *January 21, 1864.*

Hon. J. A. SEDDON :

Dispatch received. More troops cannot be withdrawn from Charleston without great risk for defense of this city until enemy's movements shall be positively ascertained, but railroads are in such bad condition it may be then too late. Cannot some of my troops now with Johnston be sent here temporarily ? They could be returned immediately after emergency.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 21, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

The following just received from Mobile :

Our scouts report that the twenty-three vessels which passed on the 14th instant in direction of Pensacola did not enter that harbor.

D. H. MAURY,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Respectfully,

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, *January 21, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff :*

Colonel Simonton reports that the Pawnee came up the Stono this morning about 10 o'clock, and remained below the obstructions until about 3 o'clock, when she fired 2 shells at John's Island, and then went down the river to her former anchorage in the bay. The enemy have been firing all day from Little Folly Island at Secessionville. All the shells fell short ; but 2 of these struck the village, and 1 passed over. Nothing hurt.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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JANUARY 22, 1864.

Capt. FRANCIS D. LEE,  
*Corps of Engineers, Charleston :*

CAPTAIN : Yours of the 15th instant to General Gilmer, reporting concerning supplies for construction of torpedo steamers, suggesting a plan for the organization of a corps for the torpedo service, and requesting that the proper steps be taken to secure the passage of an act by Congress allowing a large percentage of the value of U. S. vessels captured or destroyed to the officers and crews of the vessels performing the service, has been forwarded to this Bureau for consideration and reference to the Secretary of War.

I telegraphed to you on the 19th instant, and now repeat that your action, so far as known to this date, is fully approved by the Bureau.

The greater portion of your letters I had considered as reports of your operations, requiring no immediate answer, and my delay in acknowledging them has arisen, not from want of attention, but from the great pressure of other business during the last two weeks. In your list of articles needed you have not clearly stated what you wished the Bureau to obtain, and what you could purchase yourself. You will please hereafter make such purchases as may be necessary for the prosecution of your plans, making requisitions on me for the necessary funds, and making from time to time such reports as may give me a full understanding of your progress. When you require assistance it will be cheerfully and promptly given, but I have to request that you will distinguish between requisitions and reports, stating clearly in a separate letter such objects as may require immediate attention on the part of the Bureau.

Respectfully, yours,

A. L. RIVES,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Bureau.*

SAVANNAH, GA., *January 22, 1864.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant-General, Richmond, Va.:*

All quiet here. Considerable increase of tents reported yesterday on Tybee Island. Expect to-day to get more definite information.  
G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *January 22, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN:

GENERAL: Colonel Simonton reports that the enemy have been discovered throwing up what appears to be a considerable earth-work on Dixon's Island, near the observatory. It is now about 7 feet in height, and as far as can be seen presents the faces. They are also at work on what seems an earth-work on Long Island, next Cole's Island. At the foot of the bridge on Green Creek a steamer, supposed to be the Planter, is lying in the left mouth of the creek, known by us as Schooner Creek, opposite Campbell's house. No vessels can be seen in the Stono.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Defensive works to enable to withdraw troops for operation.

T. J.

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DIVISION,  
*James Island, January 22, 1864.*

Capt. P. N. PAGE:

The work on sham battery was continued for several days. The object being merely to make a show of work to entice the enemy up the river it was deemed a compliance with orders to discontinue it after a fair experiment had been made.



A deserter, too, who was with the party that placed the torpedoes escaped from Battery Pringle by boat to the enemy, and it was supposed would give information that would defeat our object. This, too, was the opinion of the engineer who had the work in charge, and first suggested to me its discontinuance. If it is desirable that the work go on please inform me and details will be made accordingly.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. COLQUITT,  
*Brigadier-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. SEVENTH MIL. DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
*January 24, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the commanding general.

The Pawnee came up a few days ago near the obstructions and sent two boats up the river, it is presumed, to verify the localities of the torpedoes. She came up to-day very near the obstructions and shelled John's Island. It would be well if other torpedoes were put down, as the deserters have doubtless informed as to the exact points at which these are placed.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

These traitorous scoundrels defeat the best of schemes. There are two more of the torpedo-boats ready and I will see whether we cannot get them to make the attempt on the Pawnee.

T. J.,  
*Chief of Staff.*

[Third indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 2, 1864.

When is General Rains going to try his floating torpedoes against the enemy's fleet in the main channel along Morris Island? It should be done as soon as possible.

G. T. B.,  
*General, Commanding.*

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CHARLESTON, *January 23, 1864.*

(Received 24th.)

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 20th instant has been received. General Beauregard is temporarily absent in Savannah. The returns called for will be furnished as you direct and be forwarded at the earliest moment possible.

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*



HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 23, 1864.*

Commodore TUCKER,  
*Commanding C. S. Navy, Charleston, S. C. :*

SIR: In order that steamers running the blockade of Charleston may receive all assistance possible from the military authorities in entering the port, General Beauregard has issued instructions to the officers commanding Sullivan's Island and Fort Sumter that a single steamer per night may be allowed to come past our batteries without being fired on.

Parties who have inquired from these headquarters for information as to the rules regulating the entry of steamers to this port have been told distinctly that more than one vessel per night will not be allowed to pass our batteries, but that one would not be molested.

Could you arrange so that the steamers after entering the harbor shall not be fired on by the vessels of your squadron? General Beauregard is now at Savannah, Ga.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *January 23, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Simonton reports that the enemy are still at work on the earth-work on Dixon's Island. It is so built as to command the creek leading past that island to Folly River. It may be one of the series of works already in part constructed, apparently for defense. It, however, commands the causeway leading from James Island to Dixon's Island.

No change of importance has been observed. But one gun-boat is lying near Campbell's house, and not one in Stono.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 23, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Colonel Simonton, through Brigadier-General Taliaferro, reports that—

The work being constructed by the enemy on Dixon's Island commands the creek leading past that island to Folly River. It also commands the causeway from James to Dixon's Island. But one gun-boat is lying near Campbell's house; none in Stono.

Only a few shells thrown at the city to-day. All quiet at Sumter.

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 23, 1864.*

Col. ALFRED RHETT,  
*Commanding Fifth Military District :*

COLONEL : The commanding general desires that you should be prepared to send the Twenty-sixth South Carolina Volunteers to the First Military District. No displacement of troops need take place in this district unless urgently required.

H. W. FEILDEN.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 23, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*Commanding Sixth Military District :*

GENERAL : I am directed to inform you, by order of the commanding general, that you must be prepared to send under a good officer the equivalent of one and a half regiments and one light battery to Second, Third, or Georgia Military Districts in case of necessity. No displacement of troops need take place at present unless urgently required for the object stated.

H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SAVANNAH, GA., *January 23, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Second in command, Savannah, Ga. :*

GENERAL : I am informed by General Maury that the fleet of twenty-three vessels which passed Mobile Harbor on the 14th instant, going east, did not enter into Pensacola. It may be intended for Saint Mark's or mouth of the Suwannee ; if so, I desire you to hold the troops lately drawn from Florida, with one battery of Georgia Light Artillery, ready to move at a moment's notice, with three or four days' provisions and a full supply of ammunition. In the event of their going, Colquitt's brigade will be ordered here from Charleston to replace them. It would be well to see that the necessary trains should be available on the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,  
G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

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SAVANNAH, GA., *January 23, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Commanding East Florida, Lake City, Fla. :*

Following received from Mobile :

Scouts report that twenty-three vessels which passed on 14th instant, direction of Pensacola, did not enter that harbor.

Keep bright lookout on coast of your district, and report immediately appearance of that fleet at any point.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

(Copy sent Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner, commanding Middle Florida, Quincy, Fla.)



SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
No. 16. } *Lake City, January 23, 1864.*

\* \* \* \* \*

3. The detachment of Capt. J. D. Stark's Independent Cavalry Company now at Silver Springs will move immediately to Fort Butler and take post. On its arrival this detachment, with the one at Volusia, will be equally divided; one-half to be stationed at Volusia, under Captain Stark, the other to be stationed at Fort Butler, under First Lieut. M. Haynes. These two detachments will take charge of all boats within their districts, and will guard well all the passes, allowing no persons to pass without proper papers, in accordance with orders heretofore issued. Captain Stark's command will embrace all the troops in his company now serving on the coast.

\* \* \* \* \*

By order of Brigadier-General Finegan:

R. B. THOMAS,  
*Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 23, 1864.*

Maj. C. J. HARRIS,

*Commandant of Conscripts, State of Georgia:*

MAJOR: In answer to your communication asking for the "aggregate present and absent" of the commands from the State of Georgia in this department, I am directed by the commanding general to report as follows:

Command.	Strength.	Companies.
5th Georgia Cavalry .....	980	10
18th Georgia Battalion Infantry (serving as heavy artillery) .....	289	10
6th Georgia Infantry .....	618	10
19th Georgia Infantry .....	591	10
23d Georgia Infantry .....	590	10
27th Georgia Infantry .....	605	10
28th Georgia Infantry .....	538	10
1st Georgia Infantry (regulars) .....	800	10
57th Georgia Infantry .....	636	10
63d Georgia Infantry .....	1,105	10
64th Georgia Infantry .....	746	10
22d Georgia Battalion (artillery) .....	445	5
54th Georgia Infantry .....	433	4
29th Georgia Infantry .....	192	a 1
30th Georgia Infantry .....		
4th Georgia Cavalry .....	933	10
20th Georgia Battalion (cavalry) .....	480	6
24th Georgia Battalion (cavalry) .....	398	4
Hardwick Mounted Rifles (cavalry) .....	174	2
Maxwell's battery artillery .....	105	1
Daniell's battery artillery .....	102	1
Brooks' battery artillery .....	148	1
Guerard's battery artillery .....	104	1
Clinch's battery artillery .....	91	1
Hanleiter's battery artillery .....	119	1
21st Georgia Battalion (cavalry) .....	396	5
32d Georgia Regiment (infantry) .....	1,036	10
54th Georgia Regiment (infantry) .....	547	6
12th Georgia Battalion (artillery) .....	513	6
23d Georgia Battalion (heavy artillery) .....	83	1
29th Georgia Volunteers .....	87	1

a Each.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SAVANNAH, *January 24, 1864.*

General S. COOPER :

Department letter 16th instant received. I supposed President desired to know all orders and instructions given to district commanders. My specific answer to your inquiry of December 26 is that I do not propose abandoning my present lines of defense in Third Military District of South Carolina, or anywhere else, without contesting every foot of ground to extent of my means, but have advised planters near Savannah Railroad, who have addressed me on the subject, to remove their negroes liable to fall into hands of enemy. Mr. Roberts' letter has been referred to General Walker for his remarks.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 24, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Lieutenant Rhame, through General Ripley, reports no buoys have been placed in Dewees Inlet. Captain Walpole, through General Taliaferro, reports that musketry firing for an hour was heard in direction of Morris Island at 9 a. m. on 23d instant. No change in fleet inside bar. Few shots fired at city to-day. Seven shots fired at Sumter yesterday.

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MOUNT PLEASANT, *January 25, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN :

I have information that balloons have gone up for the last three nights from Capers' Island; they have not gone up in the daytime. The object must have been to discover camp-fires. I have given directions to insure their seeing a number of them after to-night, and shall commence rocket practice. Shall also send a reconnoitering party in that direction.

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General.*

Forward to Savannah if General Jordan is there.

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Savannah, January 25, 1864.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant-General, Richmond, Va. :*

GENERAL : When I assumed command of this department in September, 1862, I found no officer on the staff of my predecessor charged with the duties of chief commissary, and I made no change, in part because the senior commissary, Major Locke, was absent from my headquarters, usefully employed in Georgia.

The system has not, in my belief, worked well and has become so complicated and embarrassing in operation that I must again make an effort to induce a modification for the sake of harmony, to which I am encouraged by so much of the circular of the chief of the Bureau of Subsistence, dated April 15, 1863, and approved by the honorable Secretary of War (see second paragraph, last page), as provides for a chief commissary of each army as part of the plan of supply therein inaugurated.

I have no chief commissary to make the requisitions upon the State commissaries provided for and appointed in the circular of the 15th April. Those very State commissaries, Major Locke, in Georgia, and Major Guerin, in South Carolina, act in double capacities—that is, continue to communicate directly with the commissaries on duty with my troops, as their immediate department chiefs, in the same manner as before their appointment under that circular, and remain on my rolls as part of my command, never having been detached therefrom by any order of the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office; in other words, they remain precisely as I found them, and yet have at the same time the other duties involved by the appointment as State commissaries, by virtue of the approved circular of the 15th April, a state of affairs which must inevitably lead to conflict of authority, as indeed it has done in one recent and signal instance.

It is the recurrence of such things, to the prejudice of the public interests, which I sincerely desire to avoid. I have no wish to change any of the arrangements made by the circular in question, which I doubt not, if properly carried out, will be efficient and develop the full resources of the country. But I desire, in order that that system should go into full effect in my department, that those State commissaries should be confined to the duties prescribed in that circular, and that a chief commissary be assigned to me, of proper rank, to be the organ of communication and requisition with them for my command, and that these double and conflicting functions in the same persons should cease. I have no strong preference among officers of the Subsistence Department known to me, but if consulted as to the person, I would be pleased to have either Maj. J. F. Cummings or Maj. F. Molloy; the former on duty at Atlanta and the latter at Charleston.

I inclose herewith a copy of an order which I would issue if approved by the War Department.

Were events to force me to concentrate and take the field I should, under the present arrangement, be without a chief commissary, and his duties, as hitherto, would have to be performed in the office of my headquarters, which is the source of constant annoyance.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 29, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Commissary-General for his views before submitting this letter to the Secretary of War.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*



[Inclosure.]

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
No. —. } Charleston, —, —.

I. — is announced as chief commissary of this department, and as the organ of communication and requisition with the several State commissaries appointed under the circular of the Bureau of Subsistence, dated April 15, 1863.

II. To guard against unnecessary delays, brigade commissaries in Georgia and Florida, under the orders of district commanders, may make requisitions directly on the chief State commissaries in their respective districts, without previous reference to the chief commissary of this department, but copies of all such requisitions will be forwarded to him without delay.

III. All army depot commissaries will forward semi-monthly to the chief commissary of this department a statement of all subsistence supplies on hand and such other papers as may be required by that officer for his information and aid in the discharge of his duties.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
Savannah, Ga., January 26, 1864.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 17th instant has been received, and in reply I beg leave to say that the orders in the case of Brigadier-General Evans had already been published, and the release of that officer from arrest directed at the date of your communication, as will be seen by General Orders, No. 126, series 1863, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, herewith, another copy of which, with the proceedings, having been forwarded on the 15th instant.

I cannot but regret that in connection with General Evans I am debarred a privilege which has been repeatedly allowed to be exercised in the course of this war by other commanders of the armies of the Confederate States, my juniors as well as seniors.

The board of examiners provided for in the act approved October 13, 1862, I did not order, for various reasons, including my inability to appoint at this time 3 officers of suitable rank without serious inconvenience to the service; the delay that hitherto has invariably attended final action on the decisions of all such boards held in the department, and my indisposition to subject an officer who had twice served in battle under my orders in the first year of the war with merit, indeed, distinction, to the humiliation involved by such an examination.

Knowing, however, that he had become a disturbing element in his brigade, that some of the superior officers in it occupied relations toward him of such fierce personal hostility as to create inextinguishable discord, that the confidence in him of a large number of the officers and men of the brigade had become materially impaired, and that the state of discipline and instruction into which the brigade under his command had fallen was bad, I was forced to be unwilling to intrust the command again to his hands, and accordingly the course I adopted.

Satisfied that General Evans will be unable to restore harmony in his brigade, that his restoration to the command of it will result in the undoing of all the good to discipline that has been effected in his absence, and that under his lead I could not reasonably rely on his troops in battle, much as I regret it, I have now no alternative in the interest of my command but to ask that a board of examiners, under the act of October 13, 1862, shall be appointed in your office of officers senior to General Evans.

Major-General Gilmer cannot at this time be detached from his command in Georgia. Brigadier-General Ripley has such relations with General Evans as to make his detail on the board improper, and Brigadier-General Wise cannot well be separated long enough from his command. All the other general officers in this department are junior to him.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

CHARLESTON, *January 26, 1864*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The Southern Torpedo Company expect to have two more steamers afloat to-morrow or next day, and would respectfully place the same under the orders of the general commanding.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE STONEY,  
*Secretary.*

HDQRS. FOURTH MILITARY DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
*Georgetown, January 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff, &c., Charleston, S. C.:*

GENERAL: The Confederate navy-yard at Mars Bluff, Peedee River, is assuming daily greater and greater importance.

Already has there been nearly completed there a vessel of war of some magnitude, which it is computed will be ready for sea in about two months. It is contemplated, as I learn, to build others, and it seems probable that important additions to our Navy will continue to be supplied from this yard as long as the war may last.

The President alludes to it in his annual message, and its growing importance will naturally attract the attention of the enemy.

It is my duty, therefore, to invite attention to the fact that the only defense for this navy-yard consists in the battery (White) which guards the entrance to Winyah (upper) Bay, and such a defense as might be extemporized by riflemen and field batteries upon the banks of the river. I need not refer to the armament of Battery White; the commanding general of course is aware of its weakness. The position itself is a strong one, and with a proper artillery and a sufficient infantry support might be rendered almost, if not absolutely, impregnable.

In view of the fact that it covers a naval establishment of growing importance, and the additional fact that this may become a

harbor of resort for steamers running the blockade and possibly the only one that may some day be left to the Confederacy—and that the Waccamaw, Peedee, Black, and Santee Rivers (all of which are also covered by Battery White) will, if adequately protected, yield an amount of subsistence sufficient for the support of 50,000 men, I hope I shall not be considered importunate in thus again inviting the attention of the commanding general to the subject. To me it seems one of no mean importance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. TRAPIER,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 1, 1864.

Inform General Trapier that the views expressed in this letter meet with my entire approval, but I regret that I have neither the force nor the guns to send at present for the defense of that important point of the department. If some Brooke guns could be obtained from the Navy Department, I would be happy to put them in position, but the effort to obtain some for the defense of Charleston from the comparatively useless gun-boats in that harbor has so signally failed that I consider it useless to make another attempt for Winyah Bay.

G. T. B.,  
*General, Commanding.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's House, James Island:*

Seventh Battalion South Carolina Volunteers cannot be spared until Colquitt's brigade shall be ordered to move. Meantime the regiment in question need not be relieved until last moment from Fort Johnson.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's House, James Island:*

Hold Colquitt's brigade in light marching order, also Wheaton's battery, with 100 rounds ammunition and three days' rations.  
Answer.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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MOUNT PLEASANT, *January 27, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN:

Captain Duffus reports no buoys in Dewees Inlet. Nothing further about balloons. Colonel McMaster is on Long Island, with directions to cause reconnaissance to be pushed forward. It is hazy



to-day, however. Venning's and Peterkin's companies are picketing the main and building camp-fires and rocketing at night. Will report when anything is observed.

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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JANUARY 27, 1864.

Capt. FRANCIS D. LEE,

*In charge construction of torpedo-boats, Charleston, S. C.:*

CAPTAIN: I have duly received your letters of December 28, 30, 31, and of January 1, 5, 8, 9, and 15,\* and have answered such as I supposed required immediate attention, but have deferred till this time writing more fully in reply to your communications for reasons stated in my letter of the 22d instant.

You will hereafter make monthly reports of the progress of the work under your charge, giving such statements as may show the amount and character of the work already done, and your plans for the future.

Requisitions for funds or supplies, and any subjects requiring immediate action on the part of the Bureau, will be embraced in separate letters, and should not be embodied in the reports of progress made, but may of course be forwarded at any time, and will receive immediate attention. Should you need the assistance of any officer in procuring supplies, or for any other purpose, you will report the name of the officer and the description of supplies needed. Please forward also a requisition for such supplies as you may need and cannot obtain without the assistance of the Bureau.

Should you wish to import from Nassau, the requisition should be made in sufficient time to enable me to make the proper arrangements for meeting the bill, the amount of which, in sterling money, should be stated as nearly as possible.

Lieutenant Hawks being attached to the company of engineer troops at Wilmington, his temporary assignment to the duty proposed by you properly rests with General Whiting, commanding. A letter on the subject will be written to him at once from the Bureau.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sheliha, chief engineer Department of the Gulf, wrote to me on the 14th instant that steps had been taken to commence the construction of torpedo-boats at Mobile as soon as the plans had been received from you, and that a naval officer, the constructor of the iron-clad steamer Tennessee, would be the best suited to take charge of it.

Inclosed I send orders† placing you in charge of the construction of torpedo-boats, &c. I have consulted with the Secretary of War concerning the plan suggested in your letter of the 15th instant for the organization of a body of men for service with torpedo-boats. He is opposed to a plan which will necessitate separate organizations and additional legislation, but states that a bill is now pending before Congress which, if passed, will enable him to place the service on an efficient footing.

Your telegram of the 26th instant is just received. I will endeavor to make arrangements to meet the amount you call for

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\* None of these letters found.

† Not found.

(£1,600) by the shipment of cotton, but, owing to deficient transportation, there are great difficulties experienced in procuring sufficient supplies of cotton for exportation to Nassau to meet the past, as well as future, wants of this department. I have already had a large amount shipped, but probably but little more than sufficient to meet the requisitions for other and indispensable purposes and the obligations already incurred.

In conclusion, I will again state that your action to this date, so far as it is known, is approved by the Bureau, and that every assistance which it is in my power to give will be cheerfully rendered.

Respectfully, yours,

A. L. RIVES,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.*

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LIST OF GENERAL AND STAFF OFFICERS SERVING IN DEPARTMENT  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA.

General G. T. Beauregard, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

First Lieut. A. R. Chisolm, aide-de-camp to commanding general.

First Lieut. A. J. Toutant, aide-de-camp to commanding general.

Brig. Gen. Thomas Jordan, chief of staff.

First Lieut. Edmund Kearny, aide-de-camp to chief of staff, acting assistant adjutant-general.

Col. A. J. Gonzales, chief of artillery.

Col. D. B. Harris, chief of engineers.

Lieut. Col. J. R. Waddy, chief of ordnance.

Lieut. Col. Alfred Roman, inspector-general.

Maj. Hutson Lee, chief quartermaster.

Maj. E. A. Deslonde, chief of pay department.

Maj. H. C. Guerin, chief of subsistence of South Carolina.

Maj. Henry Bryan, assistant adjutant-general, inspector.

Maj. John F. Lay, assistant adjutant-general, inspector of cavalry.

Capt. John M. Otey, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. H. W. Feilden, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. E. Pliny Bryan, assistant adjutant-general, special service.

Capt. J. Evans Edings, assistant adjutant-general, inspector.

Capt. Albert Ferry, assistant adjutant-general, inspector.

Capt. Neville Soule, assistant adjutant-general, inspector.

Surg. R. L. Brodie, medical director.

Surg. N. S. Crowell, medical director of hospitals.

Surg. S. Choppin, medical inspector.

Surg. R. A. Kinloch, medical inspector of hospitals.

*Maj. Gen. Jeremy F. Gilmer, second in command and commanding Third Military District of South Carolina and the District of Georgia.*

Maj. James H. Alexander, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. Robert W. B. Elliott, assistant adjutant-general.

First Lieut. Benjamin Green, acting assistant adjutant-general; adjutant, detached from Twenty-first Battalion Georgia Cavalry.

First Lieut. C. Ridgely Goodwin, aide-de-camp.

*First Military District of South Carolina, Brig. Gen. Roswell S. Ripley commanding.*

Capt. William F. Nance, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. B. H. Read, assistant adjutant-general.  
First Lieut. J. M. Schnierle, infantry.  
First Lieut. W. C. Simmons, infantry.  
Capt. C. C. Pinckney, ordnance officer.  
Capt. Henry Seabrook, ordnance officer.  
Maj. C. H. Suber, quartermaster.  
Capt. W. G. Vardell, assistant quartermaster.

*Second Military District of South Carolina, Brig. Gen. Beverly H. Robertson.*

First Lieut. T. Henry Johnston, aide-de-camp to brigadier-general commanding.  
Capt. Philip Haxall, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. W. N. Worthington, assistant adjutant-general.  
Maj. A. B. Rhett, chief of artillery.  
Maj. George W. Melton, quartermaster.  
Capt. R. H. Barnwell, engineer.  
First Lieut. J. R. Marshall, ordnance officer.  
Second Lieut. A. G. Taylor, drill master.  
Capt. Abram Huguenin, quartermaster's department.  
Surg. W. H. Robertson, medical director.

*Third Military District of South Carolina, Brig. Gen. William S. Walker.*

First Lieut. George S. Worthington, aide-de-camp to district commander.  
Capt. James Lowndes, acting assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. Ed. H. Barnwell, assistant adjutant and inspector general.  
Lieut. E. W. Fraser, acting assistant adjutant-general.  
Maj. John H. Screven, brigade quartermaster.  
Maj. John E. Bacon, brigade commissary.  
Capt. John W. Gregorie, engineer.  
Lieut. W. W. Elliott, ordnance officer.  
Second Lieut. R. J. Brownfield, signal officer.  
Surg. Samuel Logan, medical director.

*Fourth Military District, Brig. Gen. James H. Trapier.*

First Lieut. A. H. Lucas, aide-de-camp to district commander.  
Capt. William Greene, assistant adjutant-general.  
Maj. R. Q. Pinckney, quartermaster.  
Maj. S. Simons, commissary.  
Capt. J. J. Legaré, ordnance officer.  
Capt. A. Cammack, assistant quartermaster.  
Capt. W. H. Wigg, assistant commissary of subsistence.  
Lieut. T. L. Webb, assistant engineer.  
Lieut. B. G. Pinckney, assistant inspector-general.  
Capt. J. M. Brown, assistant quartermaster.  
Surg. B. C. Fishburne, medical director.  
W. A. Hemmingway, chaplain.



*Fifth Military District, Col. Alfred Rhett commanding.*

First Lieut. S. Cordes Boylston, acting assistant adjutant-general.  
Lieut. Iredell Jones, acting aide-de-camp.  
Second Lieut. James S. Heyward, ordnance officer.  
Capt. Thomas M. Barker, assistant quartermaster.  
Capt. E. A. Rabb, assistant commissary of subsistence.

*Sixth Military District, Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise commanding.*

Capt. James H. Pearce, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. George D. Wise, assistant inspector-general.  
First Lieut. Richard A. Wise, aide-de-camp.  
Lieut. Col. Del. Kemper, chief of artillery.  
Maj. Carrington Watkins, quartermaster.  
Maj. W. F. C. Gregory, commissary.  
Capt. Jas. M. Wise, ordnance officer.  
Capt. Arch. Kinney, assistant commissary of subsistence.  
First Lieut. C. F. Pardigon, drill master.

*Seventh Military District of South Carolina, Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro.*

First Lieut. R. K. Meade, aide-de-camp to district commander.  
Capt. P. N. Page, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. H. D. D. Twiggs, assistant inspector-general.  
Maj. T. A. Burke, quartermaster.  
Maj. E. L. Holcombe, commissary.  
Capt. G. W. Lamar, assistant commissary of subsistence.  
Lieut. H. C. Cunningham, ordnance officer.

*Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood, commanding brigade, &c., Seventh Military District of South Carolina.*

First Lieut. Benjamin Martin, aide-de-camp.  
Capt. P. K. Molony, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. W. E. Stoney, assistant inspector-general.  
Maj. G. B. Lartigne, quartermaster.  
Maj. R. G. Hay, commissary.  
Capt. E. H. Frost, assistant commissary of subsistence.  
Lieut. E. Mazyck, ordnance officer.

*Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Colquitt, commanding brigade, &c., Seventh Military District of South Carolina.*

First Lieut. Hugh H. Colquitt, aide-de-camp.  
Capt. G. G. Grattan, assistant adjutant-general.  
Maj. R. N. Ely, quartermaster.  
Maj. J. B. Morgan, commissary.  
Capt. T. J. Collier, assistant commissary of subsistence.  
Second Lieut. Harry Estill, ordnance officer.

*District of Georgia, Brig. Gen. Hugh W. Mercer commanding.*

First Lieut. John J. Stoddard, aide-de-camp.  
Capt. George A. Mercer, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. William W. Gordon, assistant adjutant-general.  
Maj. James T. Stewart, brigade quartermaster.  
Maj. George Robertson, jr., brigade commissary.  
Capt. William D. Harden, district ordnance officer.

First Lieut. Alexander T. Cunningham, depot ordnance officer.  
First Lieut. J. L. Boatwright, ordnance officer.  
Lieut. Col. Charles C. Jones, chief light artillery.  
Maj. Joseph J. Pope, inspector of ordnance.  
Capt. William K. Bradford, acting provost-marshal.  
Maj. James S. Williams, chief assistant inspector-general.  
Capt. Robert Grant, assistant adjutant and inspector general.  
First Lieut. Thomas Burdell, acting assistant adjutant and inspector general.  
Capt. Joseph Manigault, assistant adjutant-general and signal officer.  
Capt. John McCrady, chief engineer.  
First Lieut. Robert M. Stiles, assistant to chief engineer.  
First Lieut. B. Hudson, assistant to chief engineer.  
Second Lieut. Miller B. Grant, assistant chief engineer.  
Maj. B. McKennie, chief quartermaster of district.  
Maj. Herman Hirsch, depot quartermaster.  
Maj. Hugh M. Davenport, quartermaster.  
Capt. John H. Thomas, assistant quartermaster.  
Maj. Joseph L. Locke, chief commissary.  
Maj. M. B. Millen, depot commissary.  
Capt. Daniel H. Baldwin, assistant commissary.  
Capt. George L. Cope, assistant commissary.  
Capt. Silas M. Colding, assistant commissary.  
Capt. Robert D. Walker, assistant commissary.  
Capt. E. W. Drummond, assistant commissary.  
Capt. Sam. L. Butler, assistant commissary.  
Surg. John M. Johnston, chief surgeon of district.

*Brig. Gen. Raleigh E. Colston, commanding brigade, &c., District of Georgia.*

First Lieut. James T. Tosh, aide-de-camp.  
Capt. W. T. Taliaferro, assistant adjutant-general.  
Cadet C. A. King, acting brigade inspector.  
Second Lieut. Fred. Tupper, acting brigade ordnance officer, detached from Eighteenth Georgia Battalion.

*Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner, commanding District of Middle Florida.*

First Lieut. J. B. Grant, aide-de-camp.  
Maj. J. L. Cross, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. J. C. Rutherford, assistant inspector-general.  
Maj. M. Stanley, chief of artillery.  
First Lieut. S. S. Carlisle, ordnance officer.  
Surg. J. R. Randolph, surgeon.

*Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, commanding District of East Florida.*

First Lieut. J. R. Finegan, aide-de-camp.  
Capt. W. Call, assistant adjutant-general.  
Col. R. B. Thomas, inspector-general.  
Maj. H. R. Teasdale, brigade quartermaster.  
Maj. A. A. Canova, brigade paymaster.  
First Lieut. T. E. Buckman, ordnance officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, January 27, 1864.*

Respectfully submitted and forwarded to the Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army, in compliance with telegram of 25th instant, in the temporary absence of commanding general at Savannah.

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SAVANNAH, *January 28, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Enemy reported at Whitmarsh Island, south of this city, has left; probably reconnaissance for future operations. Preparations will be made accordingly. All quiet here and at Charleston.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA.  
*Charleston, S. C., January 28, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Comdg. Seventh Military District, James Island, S. C.:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 15th ultimo was duly received, but present current matters have necessarily delayed answers to the several points, mainly personal to the officers involved, until now. It is not believed that any difficulty or question prejudicial to the interests of the officers in question can rightly arise. Your command, originally at Savannah, was scarcely a brigade, in the sense in which that word is used with an army organized for a campaign. Your command was scattered in occupation of an extended line of detached positions at Savannah, and some twenty-eight companies of which came here with you, or rather they having been ordered here in July, you were subsequently directed to assume their command, leaving behind no command that could be rightly termed a brigade, to which the officers in question can legitimately claim to belong rather than to the troops brought here, and which are now scattered by the exigencies of the service in different parts of this department.

I am directed to add, the officers in question have been and can usefully be employed in connection with your command, or the general service, in their respective branches of the service.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA,  
No. 5. } *Quincy, January 28, 1864.*

I. As senior officer of the district, I hereby assume command.

W. J. MAGILL,  
*Colonel First Georgia Regiment.*



OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,  
*Charleston, January 29, 1864.*

Col. L. B. NORTHROP,  
*Commissary-General of Subsistence, Richmond, Va. :*

SIR : I have the honor to forward for your information a copy of a correspondence in reference to a call of the medical department to be supplied with 5 barrels of whisky. It does not appear what reason Surgeon Lining had for complaint, not that the censure of the commanding general has been justly pronounced against this department as being the cause of unnecessary reference to department headquarters upon a small point, producing delay and an accumulation of work at those headquarters.

It will be seen that your instructions communicated in your telegram of 27th instant cannot be obeyed. I do not understand that any peremptory order of my immediate commanding officer can be disregarded if it is possible to comply.

Asking for an early reply to my letter of 28th instant, I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. GUERIN,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

P. S.—The letters of Captain Witherspoon are not yet returned to me, but they do not show any further knowledge of the matter than that he admits a conversation with Surgeon Chisholm, in which he told him he had some whisky on hand. I will forward these letters when I get them, in order that his explanations may be set forth.

H. C. GUERIN,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

[Indorsement.]

OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,  
*February 9, 1864.*

SECRETARY OF WAR :

Complaints against Major Guerin, dated the 8th and 12th ultimo, from General Beauregard, were sent to the War Department because there was a deficiency of parts of the ration. One of the allegations was a deficiency of whisky, which is not a part of the ration. The Army of Tennessee has, since its withdrawal from that State, been supplied from General Beauregard's department, the troops of which had to endure their part of general privation. The former need whisky more than the latter. The State of South Carolina will not permit distillation except for the medical department, which can buy or impress as well as the commissariat.

The commanding general directed Major Guerin to decline furnishing the medical department.

In September, 1863, some whisky belonging to the Hon. Mr. Gilmer and to a Mr. Benbow was impressed ; this impressment was sustained by the Secretary of War, and should have been settled for in accordance with the laws of impressment and the orders of the War Department promulgating those laws. General Beauregard, however, ordered that the unconsumed portion of this whisky should be restored and that used, as well as the wastage from evaporation and other causes, should be returned in kind.

Orders were given by this Bureau to suspend action pending the settlement of the question by the War Department. General Beau-

regard has compelled the restoration, and now, as appears within, notwithstanding the orders from this Bureau to Major Guerin, the latter is compelled to furnish the medical department or incur the consequences of direct disobedience to the department commander, whose order is an assumption of authority and in violation of legitimate authority.

Respectfully,

L. B. NORTHROP,  
*Commissary-General of Subsistence.*

[Inclosures.]

MEDICAL PURVEYOR'S BUREAU,  
*Charleston, January 21, 1864.*

Respectfully returned to headquarters, with the following remarks :

On the 12th January instant, Surgeon Chisholm, from whom all my supplies are drawn, wrote me as follows :

My distillery is out of order, and I am making such changes as will insure a full supply after this month. I having forwarded but 1 barrel, 40 gallons. The commissary of this post, Captain Witherspoon, has a large quantity, which he would gladly ship to you upon an order from General Beauregard, and I would suggest that your department be supplied from this source for the next ten days ; or, as I will be making a little from day to day, I can forward you what is made.

J. J. CHISHOLM,  
*Medical Purveyor.*

Rather than that the troops should be allowed to suffer, I made the requisition on Captain Witherspoon for 5 barrels whisky. Had I not done so I would have been in error. It was done in accordance with the recommendation of Surgeon Chisholm, who stated, "My distillery is out of order," and that "Captain Witherspoon had a large supply which he would gladly ship."

THOMAS LINING,  
*Surgeon and Medical Purveyor.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, January 22, 1864.*

The course of Medical Purveyor Lining is approved. When such requisitions as these are directed by these headquarters to be filled, it becomes the duty of the chief of subsistence of this State to see that they are filled promptly and without injudicious delay.

This frequent reference back of papers by staff officers, on small points, which should be decided by chiefs of departments, is becoming a source of delay and an unnecessary accumulation of work at these headquarters. The chief commissary, Major Guerin, will take measures to have this liquor supplied without delay.

By command of General Beauregard :

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,  
*Charleston, January 23, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Capt. J. D. Witherspoon, who will please explain this matter. Captain W. will ship to this city all of the whisky that he has, save 2 barrels.

H. C. GUERIN,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,  
*Charleston, January 28, 1864.*

Respectfully returned to the commanding general.

It does not appear from the letters herewith submitted that any requisition was made upon him for whisky.

No reference has been made to me by Surgeon Lining or any other officer of the medical department in this matter. Had there been such I would have explained the situation of this department in regard to this article. My agents can scarcely get it at all. The medical department has authority to distill. I have been refused permission.

The requisition cannot be filled for the want of the quantity; moreover, the commanding general has instructed me to "decline to furnish the medical department with whisky the medical purveyor must furnish it."

Please return Captain Witherspoon's letters.

H. C. GUERIN,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, &C.,  
*January 29, 1864.*

I am instructed to return these papers to you, to call your attention to the order of the commanding general appended to the requisition, and to inquire whether your indorsement of the 28th instant is to be considered as a refusal to supply or to attempt to supply the whisky ordered.

Respectfully returned to Major Guerin, chief of subsistence State of South Carolina.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,  
*Charleston, January 29, 1864.*

Respectfully returned.

The order will of course be obeyed as soon as possible. I wished the commanding general to be informed why the requisition remained unfilled, and of the instructions of the commanding general in regard to supplying the medical department.

On being made aware of these instructions and of the scarcity of the article in this department (which is not allowed to manufacture it as the medical department is, and is at this time without any resources whatever excepting to go into the market and pay from \$55 to \$75 per gallon), the commanding general intimates in unmistakable terms that his order is to be obeyed notwithstanding these considerations. I have to request instructions as to two points: First, whether I shall order 5 barrels of whisky to be purchased for the medical department on the best terms possible, or have the same impressed; and, second, whether it shall be transferred to the purveyor regardless of the requisitions of commander, which are waiting to be filled.

H. C. GUERIN,  
*Commissary of Subsistence.*



HEADQUARTERS,  
*Fort Moultrie, S. C., January 31, 1864.*

Lieutenant GAILLARD,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that about 9 p. m. of last evening one of the enemy's barges was discovered under cover of the wreck of the steamer *Minho*. On being hailed the enemy replied by firing 3 musket shots at the picket on the beach.

Owing to defective friction tubes the gun in the fort, which had been previously trained on that point and loaded with canister, failed to fire, and a shell was afterward fired from another gun, which, however, failed to explode.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. DE TREVILLE,  
*Major, Commanding.*

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding, for January, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General headquarters.....	25			25		
First Military District of South Carolina.....	249	4,279	4,856	5,421	7,066	14
Second Military District of South Carolina.....	100	1,525	1,683	1,912	2,482	12
Third Military District of South Carolina.....	191	3,850	4,452	4,985	6,047	21
Fourth Military District of South Carolina.....	110	1,152	1,300	1,529	2,214	6
Fifth Military District of South Carolina.....	136	1,478	1,688	1,981	2,734	
Sixth Military District of South Carolina.....	177	2,830	2,990	3,319	4,385	16
Seventh Military District of South Carolina.....	370	5,533	6,159	6,917	9,355	8
District of Georgia.....	586	6,666	7,420	8,761	11,768	27
District of Middle Florida.....	105	1,439	1,501	1,937	2,752	
District of East Florida.....	89	1,178	1,238	1,440	2,507	8
Total.....	2,138	29,930	33,287	38,227	51,337	112

*Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding, January  
31, 1864.*

FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. ROSWELL S. RIPLEY.

18th Georgia Battalion, Maj. William S. Basinger.  
1st South Carolina (regulars), Col. William Butler.  
7th South Carolina Battalion (volunteers),\* Lieut. Col. P. H. Nelson.  
17th South Carolina,† Col. F. W. McMaster.  
18th South Carolina,† Col. W. H. Wallace.  
20th South Carolina, Col. Lawrence M. Keitt.  
22d South Carolina,† Maj. James H. Rion.  
23d South Carolina,† Col. H. L. Benbow.  
26th South Carolina,† Company C, Capt. Henry M. Lofton.  
27th South Carolina, Company G, Capt. Henry Buist.

\* To Hagood's organized brigade.

† To Evans' organized brigade.

Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion,\* Lieut. Col. W. J. Crawley.  
 Company South Carolina Cavalry, Capt. James A. Peterkin.  
 Company South Carolina Cavalry, Capt. A. D. Sparks.  
 Company South Carolina Cavalry, Capt. Elias Venning.  
 Chestatee (Georgia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas H. Bomar.  
 German (South Carolina) Light Artillery, Battery A, Capt. F. W. Wagener.  
 Macbeth (South Carolina) Light Artillery, Capt. B. A. Jeter.  
 Orleans Guard (Louisiana) Artillery, Capt. G. Le Gardeur, jr.  
 Section Santee (South Carolina) Artillery, Lieut. W. R. Cooper.

#### SECOND MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. BEVERLY H. ROBERTSON.

46th Virginia (three companies).  
 5th Georgia Cavalry, Col. Robert H. Anderson.  
 5th South Carolina Cavalry, Company D, Capt. Zimmerman Davis.  
 6th South Carolina Cavalry (seven companies), Lieut. Col. L. P. Miller.  
 Earle's (South Carolina) Light Battery, Capt. William E. Earle.  
 Mathewes (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. J. Raven Mathewes.  
 Villepigue's (Florida) Light Battery, Capt. F. L. Villepigue.  
 Washington (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. George H. Walter.

#### THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM S. WALKER.

29th Georgia, Company A, Capt. W. W. Billopp.  
 32d Georgia, Col. George P. Harrison, jr.  
 54th Georgia, Col. Charlton H. Way.  
 2d Regiment State Troops, Col. William Fort.  
 11th South Carolina, Company E, Capt. John H. Mickler.  
 3d South Carolina Cavalry (nine companies), Col. Charles J. Colcock.  
 4th South Carolina Cavalry (nine companies), Col. B. Huger Rutledge.  
 South Carolina Partisan Rangers (one company), Capt. M. J. Kirk.  
 12th Georgia Battalion Artillery, Maj. George M. Hanvey.  
 22d Georgia Battalion Artillery, Company C, Capt. Joseph A. Beals.  
 Beaufort (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. H. M. Stuart.  
 German (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. William K. Bachman.  
 Lafayette (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. J. T. Kanapaux.  
 Palmetto (South Carolina) Battalion Light Artillery, Battery G, Capt. W. L. De Pass.  
 Rutledge Mounted Rifles and Horse Artillery (South Carolina), Capt. W. L. Trenholm.

#### FOURTH MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. TRAPIER.

3d South Carolina State Troops (four companies), Lieut. Col. R. A. Rouse.  
 4th South Carolina State Troops, Col. J. H. Witherspoon.  
 21st Battalion Georgia Cavalry, Maj. William P. White.  
 Tucker's Squadron (South Carolina) Cavalry, Capt. John H. Tucker.  
 German (South Carolina) Artillery, Company B, Capt. F. Melchers.  
 Santee (South Carolina) Light Artillery, Capt. Christopher Gaillard.  
 Waccamaw (South Carolina) Light Artillery, Capt. Joshua Ward.

#### FIFTH MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Col. ALFRED RHETT.

1st South Carolina State Troops, Lieut. Col. W. L. Hodges.  
 26th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. J. H. Hudson.  
 4th South Carolina Cavalry, Company K, Capt. R. H. Colcock.  
 5th South Carolina Cavalry, Company H, Capt. Richard M. Skinner,  
 21st South Carolina, Company A, { Maj. Ormsby Blanding.  
 1st South Carolina Artillery (five companies), {  
 Gist Guard (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. Charles E. Chichester.  
 Fort Sumter Garrison, Lieut. Col. Stephen Elliott, jr.

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\* To Evans' organized brigade.

## SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE.

26th Virginia,\* Col. Powhatan R. Page.  
 46th Virginia (seven companies),\* Col. Richard T. W. Duke.  
 59th Virginia,\* Col. William B. Tabb.  
   3d South Carolina Cavalry, Company I, Capt. J. L. Seabrook.  
   5th South Carolina Cavalry, Companies E and I, Capt. Louis A. Whilden.  
   6th South Carolina Cavalry, Companies A and F, Maj. John Jenkins.  
   2d South Carolina Artillery, Company C, Capt. Medicus Rickenbaker.  
   4th Virginia Heavy Artillery, Col. John Thomas Goode.\*  
 Palmetto (South Carolina) Battalion, Company F, Capt. Frederick C. Schulz.  
 2d South Carolina Artillery, Company D, Capt. William E. Charles.  
 Marion (South Carolina) Light Artillery, Capt. Edward L. Parker.  
 Palmetto (South Carolina) Battalion, Company D, Artillery, Capt. Charles E. Kanapaux.  
 Stono (South Carolina) Scouts, Capt. John B. L. Walpole.

## SEVENTH MILITARY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO.

*Colquitt's Brigade.*

6th Georgia, Col. John T. Lofton.  
 19th Georgia, Col. James H. Neal.  
 23d Georgia, Lieut. Col. James H. Huggins.  
 27th Georgia, Col. Charles T. Zachry.  
 28th Georgia, Col. Tully Graybill.

*Hagood's Brigade.*

11th South Carolina (nine companies), Col. F. Hay Gantt.  
 21st South Carolina, Col. Robert F. Graham.  
 25th South Carolina, Col. Charles H. Simonton.  
 27th South Carolina, Col. P. C. Gaillard.  
   5th South Carolina Cavalry (four companies), Col. John Dunovant.  
   1st South Carolina Artillery (four companies), Capt. David G. Fleming.  
   2d South Carolina Artillery (eight companies), Col. A. D. Frederick.  
 Blake's (South Carolina) Battery, Capt. Francis D. Blake.  
 Chatham (Georgia) Artillery, Capt. John F. Wheaton.  
 Lucas (South Carolina) Battalion Artillery (two companies), Maj. J. Jonathan Lucas.  
 Palmetto (South Carolina) Battalion Artillery (four companies), Maj. William H. Campbell.  
 South Carolina Siege Train (three companies), Maj. Edward Manigault.

## DISTRICT OF GEORGIA.

Brig. Gen. HUGH W. MERCER.

1st Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. Charles F. Hopkins.  
 1st Georgia (volunteers), Col. Charles H. Ohmstead.  
 29th Georgia, Company G.  
 30th Georgia, Company K.  
 54th Georgia, Company A.  
 54th Georgia (three companies), } Maj. Alfred L. Hartridge.  
 Jackson (Florida) Guards, }  
 57th Georgia, Col. William Barkuloo.  
 63d Georgia, Col. George A. Gordon.  
 64th Georgia, Col. John W. Evans.  
 4th Georgia Cavalry, Col. Duncan L. Clinch.  
 20th Georgia Cavalry Battalion, Lieut. Col. John M. Millen.

\* Wise's brigade,



24th Georgia Cavalry Battalion, Maj. Edward C. Anderson, jr.  
 Hardwick Mounted Rifles, Capt. J. L. McAllister.  
 12th Georgia Artillery Battalion, Company C.  
 22d Georgia Artillery (five companies), } Lieut. Col. William R. Pritchard.  
 Cobb (Georgia) Guards.  
 Brooks' (Georgia) battery, Capt. John W. Brooks.  
 Clinch's (Georgia) battery, Capt. N. B. Clinch.  
 Guerard's (Georgia) battery, Capt. John M. Guerard.  
 Regular (Georgia) Battery (B), Capt. Charles Daniell.  
 Regular (Georgia) Battery (A), Capt. J. A. Maxwell.  
 Jo. Thompson (Georgia) Artillery, Capt. Cornelius R. Hanleiter.  
 Company of engineer troops, Capt. James W. McAlpine.

## DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM M. GARDNER.

1st Georgia Regulars, Col. William J. Magill.  
 2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Col. Caraway Smith.  
 4th Battalion Florida Infantry, Maj. James F. McClellan.  
 5th Battalion Florida Cavalry, Maj. G. W. Scott.  
 Bonaud's (Georgia) Battalion, Maj. A. Bonaud.  
 Florida Partisan Rangers, Capt. W. J. Robinson.  
 Florida Light Artillery, Capt. Robert H. Gamble.  
 Section Tiller's (Georgia) artillery, Lieut. J. G. Gibson.  
 Georgia Siege Artillery (one company), Capt. Charles G. Campbell.

## DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN.

2d Battalion Florida Infantry, Lieut. Col. T. W. Brevard.  
 6th Battalion Florida Infantry, Lieut. Col. John M. Martin.  
 Independent Company Florida Infantry, Capt. Jacob C. Eichelberger.  
 Independent Company Florida Infantry, Capt. John McNeill.  
 Independent Company Florida Infantry, Capt. B. L. Reynolds.  
 2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick.  
 Company Independent Cavalry, Capt. W. H. Cone.  
 Company Independent Cavalry, Capt. J. D. Stark.  
 Milton Artillery (Company A), Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.  
 Milton Artillery (Company B), Capt. Henry F. Abell.

## GEORGIA STATE TROOPS.\*

Brig. Gen. HENRY R. JACKSON.

3d Georgia State Guard, Col. Robert Toombs.  
 6th Georgia State Guard, Lieut. Col. S. W. Mangham.  
 8th Georgia State Guard, Lieut. Col. J. W. Fowler.  
 9th Georgia State Guard, Col. P. H. Mell.  
 11th Georgia State Guard, Col. A. T. McIntyre.  
 Wright's regiment Georgia State Guard, Col. G. J. Wright.  
 Jones' battalion Georgia State Guard, Maj. J. E. Jones.  
 Stephens' battalion Georgia State Guard, Lieut. Col. Linton Stephens.

HDQRS. FOURTH MIL. DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
*Georgetown, February 1, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff, &c., Charleston, S. C.:*

GENERAL: I regret to have to report the desertion, within the last twenty-four hours, of the larger portion of the Fourth Regiment State Troops, and also a like portion of the three companies of the

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\*At Savannah,

Third Regiment remaining on duty in this military district; one company of that regiment having been mustered out of service yesterday in accordance with Special Orders, No. 25, paragraph 3, department headquarters. The reason assigned by the commanding officers of the respective battalions for this disgraceful and mortifying conduct of their men is that their term of service has expired, and they are no longer amenable to military authority. The officers themselves are of the same opinion, and thus the demoralization of their commands is made complete. It is due to them, however, to add that they remain at their posts with the remnants of their commands. They maintain, however, that they can exercise no control over their men, inasmuch as their own commissions have expired. I hope to be relieved from the embarrassments of the position by instructions from department headquarters, now hourly looked for per special courier. It will be impossible, however, for me to apprehend all these deserters, unless re-enforcements are sent me for the purpose. The force now at my disposal is not more than sufficient for the daily picketing and guard duties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. TRAPIER,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 4, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the War Department.

The authority to disband these troops did not arrive from the War Department till the 31st January, 1864, too late for it to reach Georgetown by the 1st of February.

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*  
(In absence of general commanding.)

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 9, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, with the telegrams and answers thereto on the subject, for the information of the Secretary.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

CHARLESTON, *January 27, 1864.*  
(Received 29th.)

General COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General :*

The State troops of South Carolina claim their discharge on 31st instant—that is, six months from August 1. The question has been presented for decision War Department. Their Governor also claims discharge under arrangements with War Department. General Beauregard still at Savannah.

THOS. JORDAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 29, 1864.

The State troops of South Carolina referred to by you go out of service six months from the date of muster. Reference must therefore be had to the company muster-rolls to ascertain that fact.

S. C.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

CHARLESTON, *January 30, 1864.*

General S. COOPER :

Telegram does not enable me to decide matter of discharge of State troops. Governor Bonham claims, in letter of Secretary of War, dated June 6, 1863, term of service began August 1 ; troops on that make urgent claim they were fully organized on July 31, but were not called out by these headquarters to take the field until about September 1 ; mean time remained at home. Question is, shall they be discharged six months from August 1, or from date each regiment quit home, or may question [be] left to discretion [of] these headquarters to decide? There is much excitement about it.

THOS. JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 31, 1864.

It is decided that the term of service of South Carolina State troops expires to-morrow—that is, six months from 1st of August last.

S. C.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 1, 1864.*

A. C. GARLINGTON,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Columbia, S. C. :*

Glad to say War Department decides time of State troops expires to-day. News just received.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

(Same to Maj. Gen. J. F. Gilmer and Brig. Gen. W. S. Walker.)

HDQRS. FIFTH MIL. DIST., DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
*Charleston, February 3, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN :

GENERAL : In obedience to orders from department headquarters, the First Regiment State Troops will be mustered out of service this day at 11 a. m. I would respectfully inform you that when these troops are mustered out, there will not be a sufficient force in the city to do the ordinary guard duty.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
ALFRED RHETT,  
*Colonel, Commanding.*



BATTERY MARION, *February 3, 1864.*

Lieut. W. D. GAILLARD,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General :*

LIEUTENANT : Yesterday the mortars at this battery were employed all day against the enemy's batteries on Morris Island. The effect could not be ascertained. Ninety-seven shells and 906 pounds powder were consumed.

Very respectfully,

WM. S. BASINGER,  
*Major, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,  
*Battery Rutledge, February 4, 1864.*

Lieut. W. D. GAILLARD.

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General :*

LIEUTENANT : I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred at this battery during the past twenty-four hours. The shelling from the enemy's land batteries and monitors continued all yesterday and last night, resulting in the death of Private John Wright, Company K [Third South Carolina Artillery], struck by a shell which burst in the company kitchen. One woman (Mrs. Copeland) was also struck by same shell in arm and leg. During the past twenty-four hours 8 columbiad shell and 1 solid shot were fired from this battery. The shell were observed not to burst, although the direction and elevation were excellent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. S. BURNET,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

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HEADQUARTERS,  
*Fort Moultrie, Sullivan's Island, February 4, 1864.*

Lieut. W. D. GAILLARD,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General :*

SIR : I have the honor to report that the enemy on Morris Island as well as aboard the monitors continued firing upon the wreck of the Presto, and this fire has been more or less continuous up to this time. Eleven shots were fired at the monitors yesterday evening. Four hundred and fifty shots were fired at this island in the last twenty-four hours. Two men were wounded at this post, both severely.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. PRESS SMITH,  
*Captain, Commanding Post.*

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Tallahassee, February 5, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,

*Charleston, S. C. :*

GENERAL : On the 29th ultimo, I addressed to you a letter explanatory of affairs in that portion of your military department between the Apalachicola and Choctawhatchee Rivers in West Florida. I now submit to your consideration the copy of an unofficial letter addressed to me by Colonel McClellan, who was then, and is

now, temporarily in command of the post at Marianna; also copies of telegraphic communications from Luke Lott, esq., a respectable citizen of Calhoun County.

I should have regarded the information from Mr. Lott as unimportant, and attributed it simply to the design which has been so frequently manifested by disloyal men to excite the public mind by false reports, and thus to create discontent, encourage desertions, and deter better citizens from entering the military service. I did not believe, nor could I reasonably suppose, that any considerable numbers of deserters could be in Jackson County and near Chattahoochee River, but I am to-day informed that about 43 deserters surrounded and disarmed at night a part of a cavalry company not more than 8 miles above Chattahoochee, the principal military depot where the arsenal is situated. The next day Captain Milton marched with a force in pursuit of them, but they had escaped by crossing the river into Georgia.

To suspend the habeas corpus by State authority, in compliance with the suggestion of Colonel McClellan, would not produce, in my judgment, decisive and beneficial results. The Executive has the constitutional right to suspend the habeas corpus, but it might be questionable whether the right to the habeas corpus from the judge of the Confederate court (and he resides in Marianna) could be controlled by State authority; but unless something shall be done, and that promptly, to free that portion of the State from traitors and deserters, it will be in the possession of the enemy, and the lives and property of loyal citizens will be sacrificed. The body of deserters alluded to by Mr. Lott are 75 miles above the obstructions and defenses on the Apalachicola River, and from the Apalachicola to Choctawhatchee River there are many in separate bodies. In connection with the plan suggested in my letter of the 29th ultimo, the declaration of martial law in the counties therein named, with a suitable officer in command, until by proper military movements that portion of the State shall be relieved of deserters and traitors, may be the only practical plan of success. This is a matter, however, which deserves the most serious consideration, and if, in your judgment, the facts stated justify or make necessary the declaration of martial law and the movement of troops as suggested, will it not be advisable for you to submit copies of my communications and your views to the consideration of His Excellency the President of the Confederate States, who may alone perhaps be authorized to declare martial law and order the co-operation of troops from different military departments? Unless something shall be done before the opening of the spring campaign by the enemy it may then be too late.

While the troops from Florida have most nobly vindicated the true character of her citizens generally, it is extremely mortifying to me that any portion of the citizens should be disloyal, and that I have no means at my command to clear the State of deserters and traitors.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully,

JOHN MILTON,

*Governor of Florida.*

P. S.—The suspension of the habeas corpus would not prevent traitors from availing themselves in the civil courts of quibbles and technicalities and the aid of sympathizers.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, February 25, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded.

I am disposed to concur in the views of His Excellency the Governor with respect to utility of a suspension of the writ of habeas corpus in the district in question.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS,  
*Marianna, Fla., January 20, 1864.*

His Excellency JOHN MILTON :

SIR : On yesterday Samuel T. Russ, of Washington County, was here and went to the camp of the Fourth Florida Battalion and held a conversation with Commissary Sergt. Joseph Carroll, his son-in-law, and carried off his clothes with him. Last night Carroll deserted from camp, having borrowed Lieutenant Everett's mare, and has not been overtaken yet. Russ is the father of Lieutenant Russ, who deserted to the enemy. His daughter, Mrs. Marshall, and son, Jim Russ, have all gone to the enemy some weeks since. Russ, I am satisfied, is in full communication with the enemy, and has been for four months. I am satisfied that there are men in this and adjoining counties who are engaged daily in reporting lies with a view to make the soldiers in this section desert. That corn and supplies are withheld from soldiers' families in order to cause disaffection and desertions.

I am satisfied that most of the deserters in this section are going daily to the enemy, and that more desertions will take place from the forces here. Many of the infantry have not been paid or furnished with any clothing in some six and ten months ; they are poor men and their families are in great need of corn and the necessities of life. Unless something is done in this section shortly I fear this section will be overrun by the enemy or employ a much larger force than the Government can well spare for this section. I would respectfully suggest that the writ of habeas corpus be suspended in the western part of this State, and my object in writing you is to call your attention to the state of the country. Many families who reside upon the coast and adjacent thereto, through whom constant communication is held with the enemy, should be removed, but with the writ of habeas corpus in force the military will be involved in lawsuits all the while. I trust you will give the matters mature reflection and act on my suggestion or any other way that will give a remedy.

I am, very respectfully,

J. F. McCLELLAN.

[Indorsement.]

Governor JOHN MILTON,

*At Home :*

I am directed by the lieutenant-colonel commanding to ask you if, under the circumstances herein stated, it would not be right for him to arrest Samuel T. Russ immediately. Please give him your



opinion upon the subject. Lieutenant Booth, at the spring, will send your communication if you will send it over some time to-night.

I have the honor, very respectfully,

J. M. F. ERWIN,  
*First Lieutenant and District Adjutant.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

CHATTAHOOCHEE, *February 3, 1864.*

His Excellency JOHN MILTON :

SIR : I staid last night at Mr. Bailes'. He told me that there was a hundred deserters waylaying the road for you between Chattahoochee and your place.

Respectfully,

LUKE LOTT.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

CHATTAHOOCHEE, *February 4, 1864.*

His Excellency JOHN MILTON :

SIR : Bailes lives 2 miles above Dr. William Coes' and 5 miles above Ochesees, in Jackson County, on road from Ochesees to Pope's. He is a reliable man.

LUKE LOTT.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 5, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va. :*

GENERAL : My absence from these headquarters on important service connected with the arrangement of all available resources for the defense of Savannah in the event of an attack, of which I was warned by the War Department, has prevented the writing of this letter at an earlier moment, and will show, I trust, that if you have been obliged to telegraph me twice, mean time, on the subject-matter, the delay has been unavoidable on my part.

Taking the inquiries in their order of date, the first is that of the honorable Secretary of War, communicated from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, January 21, 1864, as an indorsement on a copy of paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 2, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, January 2, 1864, which order is as follows, in words and figures, to wit :

Maj. A. M. Allen, commissary of subsistence, Columbus, Ga., will turn over to Maj. J. B. Morgan, commissary of subsistence Colquitt's brigade, 25 barrels sirup and 50 barrels corned beef for the use of the troops in Colquitt's brigade.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

And in reply to the honorable Secretary of War's inquiry as to "the grounds of the order," I have to make the following statement: The commissary for the State of South Carolina, Major Guerin, having repeatedly admitted his inability to supply the troops in this vicinity by the means at his disposition, with his express wish, as

well as that of subordinate commanders, brigade, and other army commissaries, had necessarily been allowed to go out in pursuit of supplies, particularly meat. Brigadier-General Colquitt, commanding a brigade of Georgia troops stationed on James Island, was induced to believe that by sending out his commissary into Georgia he could procure some supplies in the emergency.

Accordingly, about the 19th December, 1863, that officer, Maj. J. B. Morgan, left, on his way through this city receiving from Maj. H. C. Guerin, chief commissary for the State of South Carolina, a letter to the post commissary, Macon, Ga., requesting the transfer of certain molasses (25 barrels) for the use of Colquitt's brigade. Major Morgan, it appears, went to Columbus, and on the 23d December urged Major Allen to transfer "25 barrels of molasses to feed a brigade at Charleston," and also some beef, upon which that officer telegraphed to Major Locke the "urgent demands," and inquired, "Shall I transfer to him the pickled beef at Wooten's and Geneva? He is sent by Major Guerin." To which it seems Major Locke answered at once, "No, positively; we cannot send supplies to Charleston, with General Bragg's army at our doors."

On or about the 2d of January, Major Morgan came to my headquarters and represented that there was an abundance of sirup and some beef at Columbus, Ga., which Major Allen, subsistence officer there, was willing to turn over to him on my order, but could not do it without.

Mean time the scarcity of provisions at the disposition of Major Guerin had even increased, his difficulties of supply were, he confessed, growing daily more critical, and he had reported but some 13,000 pounds of salt meat in depot for issue on the 1st of January, with but a few thousand rations in hands of the commissaries on James and Sullivan's Islands, an equally deficient supply of fresh beef, and only some 30 barrels and 45,904 pounds of salt beef and some 8,400 pounds of pork and bacon in the whole State. While Major Locke had in store for issue to his smaller force at Savannah 77,600 pounds of fresh beef and 115,000 pounds of bacon, with 67,000 pounds of salt beef and 48,000 pounds bacon as a reserve supply at his Columbus depot, nevertheless could I have anticipated any decided objection on the part of Major Locke, much less his actual course, with my experience of the termination of all collisions with officers of the Bureau of Subsistence since I have had the honor to command armies of the Confederate States, assuredly I would never have issued the order, would never have placed myself in a position to have my authority set defiantly aside and contemned. Not having reason, however, to believe that the order would be disagreeable, and in view of the disproportionate supplies at the disposition of Majors Locke and Guerin, paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 2, current series, was issued, with express injunction that a copy should be sent, as was done, to Major Locke, the immediate superior of Major Allen, this being in accordance with an army custom when necessities of the service call for the transmission of an order directly to the officer who is to execute it. That I was fully empowered to issue such a command to Major Allen or his superior, Major Locke, I have no doubt, nor does it appear to be questioned by the Commissary-General, who simply asks the interposition of the War Department to revoke it. As you are doubtless aware, Major Locke, on learning through the copy of the order sent him from this office that

it had been issued on the 4th of January, 1864, gave to Major Allen the following instructions :

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,  
*Savannah, Ga., January 4, 1864.*

Maj. A. M. ALLEN :

I send you herewith copy of order from General Beauregard, the same as sent you through Major Morgan. You will not obey this order, as it is an invasion of the jurisdiction assigned to me by the Secretary of War which I cannot tolerate.

J. L. LOCKE,  
*Commissary of Subsistence.*

Accordingly, when Major Morgan appeared at Columbus on or about the 6th day of January, 1864, and presented the order, Major Allen indorsed a copy of Major Locke's instructions, quoted above, on the back of it, and added over his own official signature, "In consequence of the above order from my chief, I cannot execute this order," and did maintain his position of disobedience.

And now as to the propriety of the order and the motives and spirit which have inspired the anomalous conduct of Major Locke, upon which chance has enabled me to shed some light. It so happened that on or about the 21st December, 1863, Major Allen, commissary of subsistence at Columbus, informed Major Locke that he had in store some 150 barrels "fine stall-fed beef," which "ought to be used soon," and that he would therefore send it to Major Robertson, at Savannah, unless otherwise ordered, but suggested if not needed for "immediate use (by Major R.) it may be well to forward to Bragg's army." On the 23d December, Major Locke wrote to Major A. in reply :

I have written to Major Cummings, at Atlanta, to telegraph you if he can get the 150 barrels pickled beef forward in season. If he can, well; if not, send it to Major Robertson, at Savannah.

This was his disposition of this valuable meat until informed by Major Allen the same day by telegraph that Major Morgan was at Columbus with "urgent demands" for some of it "to feed a brigade at Charleston," when suddenly he telegraphed that this beef could not be sent to Charleston, "with General Bragg's army at our (their) doors." This, when but a moment before he felt authorized to direct that in a certain event all this beef could be diverted from that army to Savannah, where already he had accumulated meat supplies fourteen times as large as that in depot at Charleston, for a force more than three times as large as that dependent on the Savannah depot, and actually under fire of the enemy. On the 24th December (the next day), it seems he telegraphed and wrote to Major Allen, directing the meat in question to be sent to Major Cummings, at Atlanta, without having, it would appear, received any requisition in the interval for the meat from that quarter. Nevertheless, it is apparent that on the 6th day of January, when Major Morgan presented the order of these headquarters, applied for and was refused the meat, it had not yet been sent forward to Atlanta, and Major Locke, in his official report to these headquarters, reports 67,000 pounds of salt beef in reserve at Columbus on the 1st day of January. From the foregoing it must be apparent that Colonel Northrop, in his indorsement on the copy of the order in question, submitted by the War Office, has been led into inaccurate statements. It is not the fact, as he alleges, that Major Allen originally (that is, on December 23) refused to deliver these stores to Major Morgan,



because they had been collected and were destined for General Bragg's army. For it is plain from the letter herewith of Major Allen to Major Locke, dated December 21, 1863, that this same "fine stall-fed beef" was destined for Savannah, and was only definitely ordered to General Bragg's army when urgently asked for to feed a brigade of Georgia troops in South Carolina. I admit it is impolitic, as a rule, to make special issues of particular supplies to particular brigades, but the fact is that only in this way have certain material parts of the ration been procured much of the time for certain parts of my command in South Carolina. Major Guerin has been forced, by the confessed inadequacy of his own means of supply, to sanction and request resort more than once to these measures, and the collection by brigade and other army commissaries in particular districts for their respective commands. Next in order of date is your telegram of the 1st instant, calling for description of the "recent and signal instance of conflict of authority" referred to in my letter to you from Savannah, of the 25th ultimo, and the name of the officer who gave the order which conflicted. From the foregoing it will be perceived that I had in view the order of Major Locke to Major Allen, of the 4th of January, directing him to disobey my orders of the 2d of the same month. All papers\* necessary for a proper understanding of the matters involved are herewith, to wit:

First. A copy, marked A, of paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 2, series 1864, from these headquarters, as returned here in possession of Major Morgan, indorsed by Major Allen, with Major Locke's instructions to disobey it, and Major Allen's declaration of his disobedience.

Second. A copy, marked B, of a letter from Major Allen to Major Locke, dated December 21, 1863, showing conclusively that the meat in question was not collected expressly for the troops under General Johnston, as alleged by Colonel Northrop, and would have been sent to Savannah but for the appearance and requisition of Major Morgan.

Third. A copy, marked C, of a letter recently written by Major Guerin (24th January) to these headquarters, communicating certain views of the Bureau of Subsistence, which expressly admit that all officers of the Subsistence Department serving under the orders of the chief commissary of a State must be placed on duty by the department commander in a department order, at the solicitation of the chief of subsistence of the State in which said officer, of the class of Major Allen, shall be assigned for service. In which connection I have simply to remark, it must surely be a novelty in military administration which would make it essential for me to issue an order placing an officer on duty within the limits of my department before he could enter on that duty, and that once having been so ordered by me, he is thenceforward so far independent of my command as to be able to disobey my orders, with circumstances of aggravated defiance, as in the case under notice, to wit, an indorsement on my order of such a character as that on the paper herewith, marked A.

Fourth. Copy, marked D, of a letter from Major Guerin, chief commissary State of South Carolina, to post commissary, Macon, written in view of a provision of the circular of the Bureau of Sub-

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\* Omitted.

sistence, April 15, 1863, as approved by the Secretary of War, and showing the wish of Major Guerin that the subsistence department in Georgia should assist him and supply molasses to this particular brigade.

Fifth. Charges against Major Locke for his conduct, in which connection I deem it proper to declare had Major Locke, on receiving the copy sent him of paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 2, current series, informed me that he desired it to be rescinded, I should have complied without hesitation, such is my sincere desire to avoid all possible controversy with the Subsistence Bureau.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

*General, Commanding.*

P. S.—An additional charge, with two specifications, will be forwarded in a few days, based on the fact that Major Locke, up to December 23, 1863, when he refused to let Major Morgan have the beef on alleged grounds that it was urgently wanted for General Bragg's troops, had given orders looking to sending the beef in question to be issued to troops at Savannah, where there was already a considerable accumulation of meat.

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 13, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to Secretary of War, with report of Commissary-General.

S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Inclosure.]

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,  
*Richmond, Va., February 12, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: I have received the documents sent me yesterday, consisting of a letter of General Beauregard and charges against Major Locke, with accompanying papers. I have not the time, and I remark that it is not pertinent to this case, that I should discuss all the inferences which General Beauregard's letter seems to imply, and that the indorsement asking for the revocation of the order to Major Allen to turn over the supplies destined for Bragg's army to the brigade commissary of Colquitt's brigade for that brigade was sufficient, in my judgment, to have produced a revocation of that order without delay. If such orders as that of General Beauregard are allowed, or the officers assigned by order of Secretary of War to collect supplies under the circular of April 15 are to be compelled to turn over their supplies to particular brigades on application of their commissaries, who, either on leave of absence or under orders, are permitted to go, or are sent out, on such quests, then the whole system approved by Secretary of War and the organization of this subordinate branch of the War Department is exploded. I herewith renew my application for the revocation of that order.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTHROP,

*Commissary-General of Subsistence.*

[General indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,  
*Richmond, March 22, 1864.*General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: In regard to this whole matter, probably the less that is said the better. If General Beauregard desires a chief commissary he has only to assign any officer of that department under his command to that duty.

The assignment of the chief commissaries of the States of South Carolina and Georgia by the War Department relieved them from duty under General Beauregard's command. Any order from him direct to them was therefore irregular and could not be obeyed without bringing them in conflict with the War Department. This announcement it is hoped will prevent any further collision of authority and renders unnecessary further action.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,  
BRAXTON BRAGG,  
*General.*

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SUBSISTENCE BUREAU,  
*Richmond, February 6, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: In respect to the letter of General Beauregard of the 5th instant [25th ultimo] and the orders\* he submits for approval, referred by you to this Bureau, I have to make the following remarks: On February 4, 1863, General Beauregard applied for a department chief of subsistence. He now renews the application, appearing to suppose that the army commissary referred to in the circular of April 15, 1863, from this Bureau, and approved by the Secretary of War, contemplated an officer whose functions were the same as the chief commissary of the department, now applied for by him.

The circular contemplated the existing fact that an army, operating in the field, confronting an enemy, should have a chief commissary. General Beauregard's letter and the order he submits, if approved, would confer on the chief commissary of an army the functions of a chief commissary of the department, for which there is no law, and which the War Department did not intend. He thinks the office he asks to be filled would prevent conflict of authority, to which the existing conditions of things "inevitably leads." He is mistaken. If there had been such a functionary and he had assumed to give the orders in which conflicting authority has appeared in that department, these orders must have been opposed, because they were antagonistic to the general principles on which the Bureaus of the War Department are organized and, under the Secretary of War, managed. The system of collecting and issuing supplies in the States composing General Beauregard's department is appropriate to the organization in this department, which is not that of an army in the field, but of subdivisions occupying separate districts. So soon as the troops of that department are concentrated in one army for active operations a chief of subsistence for said army can be appointed, and the full system contemplated in circular of April 15, 1863, will be in operation.

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\* See p. 545.



The duties of such a chief commissary are, first, to organize, with the chief quartermaster, the brigade and division trains which are assigned to carrying supplies for the former for immediate issue, the latter for replenishing the first and hurrying forward supplies from points selected in conference with commanding generals and the Commissary-General, and for furnishing the train for hospital supplies needed for sick and wounded. Second, he must see that strict adherence is observed by the army commissaries to the necessities of his supplying or reducing the rations when there is well-grounded probability of not getting sufficient to last until more can be obtained. Third, he must see that provision returns are made on the principles of proper adjustment, so that troops going off or coming in may not cause more or less rations to be issued them, and are appropriate to the whole number of men to consume them. Fourth, he must, in harmony with the purchasing commissaries of this Bureau, obtain from the commanding general such information as may enable these officers to prepare for any movement for getting or securing supplies. Fifth, he must have funds to place in the hands of brigade commissaries when detached, and give them instructions to buy in conformity with the rates of purchase in the different districts, under circumstances where they can buy and the State agents are not operating, so as not to dissatisfy the people by unequal rates. He must familiarize himself with the law of impressment, and be ready to impress under instructions of the commanding general. When the commanding general sends out foraging parties in an enemy's country, the general will, of course, give special rules of action, dependent on the policy of his Government, as instructed by the War Department. Such duties make this officer the representative of this Department with the army and the commanding general, and he is guided by the rules approved by the Secretary of War, and is by no means on the staff of the general, and if he discharges these duties he ought to be acceptable to him, but loyalty to the general is no part of his qualifications. A review of the origin and changes by which the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida has here reached will show that hitherto there has been no necessity for such an officer. The defense of the coast of Georgia gradually expanded into a State department. Virtually a similar process occurred in South Carolina, and finally these States were embraced in one department with Florida.

Thus Majors Locke and Guerin were State commissaries, and the system of the circular of April 15, 1863, was approximately in operation in Georgia and South Carolina before it was inaugurated generally.

When General Lee was in command of that department the troops were arranged in chosen localities and the system of collecting and issuing answered perfectly well; the same under General Pemberton; no complaints were ever made. The troops were as well supplied as any others. They are now as well if not better off than the Army of Virginia, and as well as the necessary requirements of Johnston's and Lee's armies or that country will admit of and the general condition of the Confederacy permits. If they are not satisfied it is not because the existing system has not worked well or been badly managed. General Beauregard one year ago wished to break it up and to have a department chief commissary under his control as his staff officer. Injudicious orders and unwarranted interferences by the military organizations of the country have been given,

and General B. has attempted to regulate matters which he had not the right to do and had not acquired the requisite information for doing. If these principles of organization and the orders of the War Department in respect to commissariat matters had been respected strictly cases of conflicting authority would never have arisen.

General Beauregard wants a chief commissary of his department of a rank proper to be his organ of communication with the State commissaries. The circular of April 15, 1863, to which he refers, makes no reference to the rank of the army commissary, and no organ of communication with the State commissaries is required, because, assigned to special duty by the Secretary of War which may require confidential and direct conference with the generals whose departments include their respective States and as chiefs of the Bureau in those States, they are not under the supervision of any other staff bureau. The chief army commissary specially assigned exercises deputed powers independent of his rank; others of senior date or higher grade may be found attached to brigades or divisions. If the chief does not answer another may be assigned to relieve him by order of the Secretary of War.

Either these principles must obtain or the alternative presents itself of inefficient officers remaining or a needless advancement of rank becomes necessary when another officer is to be tried. The Secretary of War owes it to the Department and to this Bureau and to the interests of the service that the unwarrantable orders of General Beauregard be annulled so as to prevent repetition. General Beauregard speaks of a recent signal instance of conflicting authority. A recent one was that the brigade commissary of Colquitt's brigade, stationed in South Carolina, being on leave of absence at Columbus, Ga., discovered some pickled beef destined for Johnston's army, and applied for some. This being refused, he obtained from General Beauregard an order for some to be transferred to him, which was refused by the chief commissary of Georgia, Major Locke. Another has occurred to which particular attention is called. Both are unwarrantable on the part of the commanding general and in conflict with the War Department. That set forth in paper C should be considered in connection with the case of the whisky belonging to Benbow and Gilmer, and impressed by the Government. This impressment was adjudged by the Secretary of War as legal; part was consumed. General Beauregard, in disregard of law, ordered its restoration in kind, and now requires Major Guerin to procure more to meet a call of the medical department, which has both the power of impressment and the legal permit to distill, which the commissary department has in vain asked for in that State.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTHPROP,  
*Commissary-General of Subsistence.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, February 6, 1864.

General JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Simonton reports a two-mast gun-boat came up Stono today about 2 o'clock and threw one shell in direction of the reserve picket. She went back immediately. A working party of the

enemy consisting of about 20 men have been all day engaged on the causeway between Dixon's and Horse Islands. Three gun-boats are in Folly, opposite Legaré's burnt house.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. MILITARY DIST. OF GEORGIA,  
No. 2. } *Savannah, February 6, 1864.*

I. The troops in this military district are again warned against the disgraceful practice of molesting or appropriating private property. The brigadier-general commanding regrets that recent complaints from inoffensive citizens of grievous outrages upon their property compel him to call upon all under his command to expose and bring to merited punishment the guilty parties. Officers will be held responsible for the conduct of their men; they will use every exertion to discover the perpetrators of outrages upon private property, and will at once send them in arrest to Oglethorpe Barracks and prefer charges against them. The severest measures will be employed by the brigadier-general commanding against any officer or soldier identified as a violator of this order.

II. In obedience to paragraph II, General Orders, No. 104, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, series 1862, soldiers will be strictly prevented from carrying their arms beyond the camp; any soldier found beyond the limits of his camp with his arms, unless on official duty, will be arrested and lodged in Oglethorpe Barracks.

By command of Brigadier-General Mercer:

GEO. A. MERCER,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS CHIEF ENROLLING OFFICER,  
FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
*Greenville, S. C., February 7, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

DEAR SIR: Col. J. D. Ashmore directs me to inclose the within dispatches, received yesterday at 2 p. m. from Colonel Palmer, commanding Western North Carolina, that you may be prepared to hear any exaggerated rumors that may find their way to your office. Upon the receipt of the information contained, he immediately resorted to measures to meet any emergency that might arise, by ordering all his available forces to hold themselves in readiness to move at once should succeeding communications demand a march, at the same time dispatching reliable and intelligent couriers in the directions that the enemy were reported to be marching. Some of the couriers have returned, bringing no additional intelligence. He has, however, received a letter from Mr. Samuel Maxwell, agent for the collection of tax in kind at Pendleton (a copy of which please find inclosed), to whom he wrote ordering him to enlist as many volunteers as possible, and hold himself in readiness to move to Walhalla, to co-operate with Capt. J. J. Norton, enrolling officer of Pickens district, who has under his immediate command 12 or 15 mounted and effective men, which corroborates the statements made in the inclosed dispatches. The enemy have doubtless been in Franklin



County, N. C., committed some depredations, burned a mill, &c. Colonel Ashmore has also sent a detachment of 10 men, under command of a commissioned officer from Captain Boykin's company, to Major Rials, 17 miles from Greenville, S. C., and 5 or 6 south of the Table Mountain, and directly on the road leading to Pickens Court-House and Walhalla, for the purpose of communicating with couriers that he sent out yesterday with orders to penetrate the country that the enemy are reported to be occupying. With his present disposition of couriers he can be advised of a forward move by the enemy in a very short time. The courier has just returned from Pickens Court-House; reports confirmatory to information previously received. They are reported to be marching cautiously, about 10 miles per day, feeling their way with artillery. Captain Boykin's company is here ready for action with a good many volunteers, who will be officered by officers in this place. Colonel Ashmore thinks, judging from the feeling evinced here, that by uniting his volunteers with the organized force that he has at his command he will be enabled to fight them with success, even if they appear 600 strong, as reported. Should anything important occur you will be immediately advised.

Very respectfully, I am, your obedient servant,

T. P. WESTMORELAND,  
*Assistant Chief Enrolling Officer.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,  
*Asheville, February 5, 1864.*

Maj. JOHN D. ASHMORE,  
*Commanding Post, Greenville, S. C.:*

MAJOR: I inclose a copy of a dispatch just received from Jackson County, in this State. Captain McMillian is a good officer and reputed to be a man of sound judgment. The force of the enemy in Jackson and Macon is reported to be 600 cavalry with two pieces of artillery.

The intimation in Captain McMillian's letter that another force is coming through Cherokee is the first that I have had to that effect. I am gathering what home guards I can, and shall leave for Jackson some time to-day. Most of my forces are in East Tennessee.

It is supposed by some of my correspondents in Jackson that the enemy will return to East Tennessee without endeavoring to penetrate farther. Would it not be well for forces to move from Walhalla toward North Carolina, in order to meet the enemy should they really attempt to pass in that direction?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. PALMER,  
*Colonel, Comdg. Western Dist. of North Carolina.*

[Sub-inclosure.]

WEBSTER, N. C., *February 4, 1864.*

Col. JOHN B. PALMER,  
*Commanding Post, Asheville, N. C.:*

Since writing my first line there is cannon to be distinctly heard at this place in the direction of Franklin, and smoke seen. Whether Franklin is on fire or not I am not able to say, though I would not

be surprised. The enemy is advancing in three directions, without doubt—up through Cheowah in Cherokee, up the Tennessee River in Macon County, and up the Tuckasegee River in Jackson County—in three directions, en route for Walhalla, S. C. I fear there can't be forces obtained sufficient to stop their progress in time. I am willing to fight them on any sort of ground with equal numbers.

Colonel, please to send forces forthwith if you can spare them; if not, please order me away from here if you think best; if not, give me written orders and I will endeavor to carry them out in full.

I remain, your most humble servant,

A. J. McMILLIAN,  
*Comdg. Company C, Major McRue's Battalion.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

PENDLETON, *February 7, 1864.*

Maj. J. D. ASHMORE:

DEAR SIR: I will use every exertion to comply with your order. I do not, however, think there will be much done, as there are but few men here and very little ammunition and but few guns of any kind. I have fired a signal to meet in the village at 7 o'clock, and will go to Walhalla with all the force I can get. William Sloan arrived here last night, who lives at Franklin; says the Yankees, 600 strong, are traveling 10 miles per day; have not burned Franklin; burned one mill, and took the two Mr. Syles prisoners. Mr. Sloan is perfectly reliable; left Franklin at 4 p. m. the 4th.

Very respectfully,

S. C. MAXWELL.

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GREENVILLE, S. C.,  
*February 7, 1864—10 p. m.*

[General G. T. BEAUREGARD:]

GENERAL: I have couriers penetrating the mountains at all points. Captain Norton has gone to Walhalla under orders, with 15 or 20 men, and instructed to receive all the volunteers from amongst our people who offer themselves. Captain Maxwell, at Pendleton, is ordered forward. Lieutenant Du Bose, with 10 picked men, the flower of Boykin's company, with the fleetest horses, is posted on the road to advance, if necessary, in any direction indicating the enemy's approach and to report after reconnoitering their strength. Captain Broghs, at Anderson, is directed to move on Walhalla with his detachment of 8 or 10 men and all the volunteers he can command for its defense. Captain Boykin, with about 50 men, is here with his horses saddled, ready to move at a moment's notice to any point that the enemy's approach may indicate. Numerous citizens have volunteered and we have in town Colonels Hatch, Jones, Elford, and Roberts, Captains Hoke, Elford, and McCreary, all of whom have seen service and many of them behaved most gallantly on the battle-field, to officer them. We have, I think, small-arms and ammunition enough to whip even 600 of the enemy if they come without artillery. My orders are to concentrate at or near Walhalla; if they approach, to ambush and fight them at every creek, bridge, ravine, and rivulet; obstruct and embarrass their movements in every possible way. There is great confidence felt that we will be

able to meet and whip them. Our people are calm, no undue excitement, and I am glad to say no such feeling of panic manifested as was shown here last fall when similar reports reached this place. I will advise you of everything that happens, by each succeeding mail, worthy of communicating. My private opinion is that the enemy will not attempt to penetrate thus far, but have prepared to meet him if he does.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. ASHMORE,

*Major, Commanding Post.*

P. S.—I have communicated with Major Melton and Governor Bonham and asked for a company of artillery to be sent to Wall-halla. They will communicate with you by telegraph, I presume, before this reaches you.

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CHARLESTON, *February 8, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

• A serious difficulty is on eve of explosion in relation to time of service of First Regiment South Carolina Artillery. Question in issue was presented for action of my superiors in papers of Private W. R. Logan, December 7. Early answer important.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,

*Charleston, S. C., February 8, 1864.*

SOLDIERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA: The term of service of some of you is about to expire. You must have observed from the newspapers of your country that your brothers in arms of the veteran armies of Northern Virginia and of Tennessee have re-enrolled, as was to be expected of such men, by entire companies, battalions, regiments, and brigades, proudly retaining the organizations intact under which they have won renown. Will the men who have defended Forts Sumter and Moultrie and Battery Wagner fail to follow these examples of soldierly patriotism?

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

*General, Commanding.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,

*James Island:*

Colquitt's brigade will proceed without delay to Savannah to report to Major-General Gilmer after review. Nelson's battalion will report to you from Sullivan's Island.

THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff.*



SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
 No. 38. { *Charleston, S. C., February 8, 1864.*  
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VII. Colquitt's brigade, with Wheaton's battery, will proceed without delay by rail to Savannah, Ga., and report to Maj. Gen. J. F. Gilmer, second in command. Quartermaster's department will supply transportation.  
 \* \* \* \* \*

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royal's House, James Island :*

Wheaton's battery will of course accompany Colquitt's brigade.  
 THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royal's, James Island :*

The Seventh South Carolina Battalion has been ordered to the Seventh Military District by telegraph and order.

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Comdg. First Military District, Mount Pleasant :*

Enemy making heavy movement in Florida. Colquitt's brigade ordered away. Nelson's battalion must be sent to report to General Taliaferro.

By order :

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Col. L. M. KEITT,  
*Commanding, Sullivan's Island :*

Between midnight and daybreak to-night Captain Bryan will come to some portion of Sullivan's Island with three row-boats. Instruct your pickets not to fire on the boats. The boats when hailed will answer, "Torpedo." Answer if message is received.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Enemy making development of a serious operation in force on Saint John's River, Fla.

Send to General Finegan all troops once ordered to be held ready to go from Savannah to Florida. Colquitt's brigade is ordered to you for exigencies. Celerity important.

By order of General Beauregard :

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. FINEGAN,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

Re-enforcements ordered you from Middle Florida and Savannah. Do what you can to hold enemy at bay and prevent capture of slaves.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, }  
No. 28. }

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
*Lake City, February 8, 1864.*

1. Capt. A. A. Ochus, commanding Bay Port, will move without delay in light marching order to Gainesville, Fla., and from there by rail to Baldwin, Fla. The movement will be made by forced marches. The quartermaster will furnish transportation from Gainesville.

2. Capt. J. Q. Stewart will move by forced marches his whole company to Otter Creek, Florida Railroad, and will take train from there to Baldwin, Fla. The quartermaster will furnish transportation from Otter Creek.

3. Capt. S. W. Mays, commanding No. 4, will leave 10 men at his post, and repair with the balance of his company to Baldwin, Fla. As soon as Captain McNeill arrives at No. 4, the 10 men of Captain Mays will rejoin their company. Captain McNeill will immediately send one-half his company to No. 4, to take post. Captain Mays will send a copy of this order by express to Captain McNeill. The quartermaster will furnish transportation for Captain Mays' company.

4. Capt. M. J. Clarke will move by forced marches with the detachment of his company now at Crystal River to Gainesville, and take rail from there for Baldwin, Fla. The quartermaster will furnish transportation from Gainesville.

\* \* \* \* \*

By order of Brigadier-General Finegan :

R. B. THOMAS,  
*Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 8, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM M. GARDNER,

*Quincy, Fla.:*

Send to General Finegan's support, with all possible celerity, every soldier you can possibly spare. He is threatened by a serious movement in force from Jacksonville. Answer.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS CHIEF ENROLLING OFFICER,  
FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
*Greenville, S. C., February 8, 1864.*

[General G. T. BEAUREGARD:]

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit you the only additional information received at these headquarters since my last, dated 10 p. m., February 7, instant. I still have couriers in the mountains and at various points watching the movements of the enemy. Should any additional intelligence be received it shall be communicated forthwith.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. ASHMORE,  
*Major, Commanding Post.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

ENROLLING OFFICE,  
*Pickens Court-House, S. C., February 7, 1864—1 p. m.*

Capt. E. M. BOYKIN:

CAPTAIN: I have just seen W. N. Craig, sheriff, who saw Lieutenant Woodin, C. S. Army, who left Franklin, N. C., yesterday morning, and the intelligence thus received is that one Columbus Zackery, with about 40 persons, came within 15 miles of Franklin, and that was the extent of the hostile forces of which there was any account at Franklin, or in its vicinity, yesterday morning.

I am, with much respect, yours, truly,

JAS. J. NORTON,  
*Captain and Enrolling Officer, Pickens District, S. C.*

P. S.—Just as I finished the above note I received the inclosed penciling from Lieutenant Woodin, in reply to the note of inquiry sent by me to Walhalla, S. C., this morning, varying slightly from the foregoing statement.

J. J. N.

[Sub-inclosure.]

WALHALLA, S. C., *February 7, 1864.*

Capt. J. J. NORTON:

CAPTAIN: I went out yesterday with a scouting party to Mr. Beck's, 6 miles from Clayton. I saw the home guards of Raiborn returning home. They had been down to Franklin. There has been no enemy within less than 15 miles of Franklin. They are supposed to be nothing but bushwhackers. The citizens of Franklin are all going back home again. There is no apprehension of any danger in that vicinity.

Yours, very truly,

C. H. A. WOODIN.



[Inclosure No. 2.]

PICKENS COURT-HOUSE, S. C.,  
February 7, 1864.

Col. W. S. GRISHAM,  
*Walhalla, S. C.:*

DEAR UNCLE: I send Johnny Holcourt up to ascertain something of the whereabouts of the Yankees and the necessity of moving to meet them. I received orders from Colonel Ashmore to enroll volunteers for the occasion, send out scouts, couriers, &c. Please give Johnny any reliable information you can gather. I will send again after awhile and it may be to go farther.

I am, yours, affectionately,

JAS. J. NORTON.

CHARLESTON, *February 9, 1864—8.30 a. m.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General:*

As I may be required in Georgia or Florida at any moment, a competent officer of sufficient rank should be sent to command in South Carolina. Lieut. Gen. D. H. Hill would be acceptable. One officer should command in Florida. Cannot Major-General Cobb be ordered there? Please answer soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General Gilmer is the next ranking officer, and should succeed to the command.

S. C.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 9, 1864—3.15 p. m.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

Should any objection on account of rank arise in sending General Hill here, as designed in telegram this morning, Major-General McLaws would be equally acceptable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 9, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. D. H. HILL,  
*Raleigh, N. C.:*

I have applied for your services here. Can you aid in the matter?  
G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 9, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. HOWELL COBB,  
*Atlanta, Ga., or wherever he may be:*

I have applied for you to command two districts in Florida. Can you aid in the matter?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 9, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Commanding, Mount Pleasant :*

Hold two regiments of infantry ready—three days' provisions and supply of ammunition—in light marching order for an emergency. Enemy making demonstration on John's Island in apparent force, but probably as feint. Have drawn back our people beyond Haulover.

By order of General Beauregard :

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 9, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Commanding, Savannah, Ga. :*

Commanding general wishes rolling-stock of Savannah and Macon Railroad to be used to forward supplies to General Johnston, much needed, but must not interfere with movement to support of General Finegan, but all possible assistance must be afforded General Johnston.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 9, 1864.*

His Excellency JOHN MILTON,  
*Governor of Florida, Tallahassee, Fla. :*

Have ordered Generals Gardner and Gilmer to re-enforce General Finegan with all available troops in their districts.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 9, 1864.*

Mr. DAVID O'KEEFE,  
*Manager of Telegraph Office, Charleston :*

SIR : The commanding general fears that your line hence to Savannah may have been lately tapped by the enemy at some point, and wants the closest scrutiny of every part of it made to discover whether any such thing has been done. Please give this matter your earliest and most serious attention.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

[Lieut. Col. J. R. WADDY :]

COLONEL : In obedience to special orders received from your office, I have the honor to make the following report in accordance therewith :

On the 11th of January, two companies of Major Scott's command, stationed within a mile of Tallahassee, Fla., were inspected ; the com-

panies of this command are not lettered. Captain Browning's company has no arms; company has fifty-eight sabers. This command will be armed by Lieutenant Carlisle, ordnance officer, District of Middle Florida, as soon as possible. Saddles not very good; they have plain trees which are very narrow at the pommel; they are therefore very apt to make the backs of horses sore and thus incapacitate them for service.

Captain Hunter's company (not lettered) armed with sabers; but 28 men present for duty; company has eighteen Austrian rifles, which are in good order, and the men appear to have taken good care of the arms. Saddles same as Captain Browning's. Men all appear in good condition in these two companies. Though it does not come exactly under my orders, I take pleasure in stating the soldierly appearance of this squadron, the fine condition of their horses, &c., doing credit to the commanding officer, Major Camfield.

At the same camp, near Tallahassee, on the same date, were inspected Companies D and I, Second Florida Cavalry. Company D, Captain Maxwell, 78 men for duty, with seventy-eight Maynard rifles, sabers, and holster pistols, old pattern; the supply of ammunition for rifles small. I directed the captain to make requisition at once on Lieutenant Carlisle for ammunition. The saddles used by this company are the plain tree (saddle), but they seemed to do very well, as none of the horses' backs were at all sore. The arms of this company in perfect order; the horses appear well kept, and the command presented a very good appearance, doing credit to its commander.

Company I, Second Florida Cavalry, Captain Parramore, armed with Maynard rifles, 40; Mississippi rifles, 6; Enfield rifles, 5; caliber carbines, 30; Hall's carbines, 7; double-barreled shotguns, 5. Saddles same as those in Company D. This company has also sabers. I would respectfully state that the ordnance officer in the District of Middle Florida is informed about the armament of the troops in his district, and that so soon as arms are sent him he will issue them to the troops in proper order. This company has taken good care of their arms, though the horses were by no means as well kept, nor did the men present as good appearance as of Captain Maxwell's company (D) of this command.

On the 11th of January, the ordnance depot, under charge of Lieut. S. S. Carlisle, at Quincy, Fla., was inspected; there were in depot some few infantry accouterments made of canvas, covered with a sort of lacquer. These accouterments are necessarily very poor, and the ammunition can therefore last but a short time, comparatively, in such boxes. The belts are also much too short, which fault is general with these accouterments; it puts the men to much inconvenience, and when marching with a full supply of ammunition, the belts, only held by a simple cord or string, would be very apt to break and thus produce great confusion. I would respectfully suggest that these accouterments be either mended (that is, that the belts be made longer), or that other belts be issued to the troops having these very short belts. There were also in depot at Quincy some 300 damaged arms of various kinds and calibers, which Lieutenant Carlisle, ordnance officer, told me he would send to Major Humphreys, at Columbus, Ga., for repairs, as soon as the river, then very high, would allow, there being no means of repairing arms at Quincy.



Books and stationery are very much needed in the office of Lieutenant Carlisle, at Quincy; he made requisition for stationery some time since; I directed him to again require for what he needed in this line. I would respectfully submit that a depot of repairs could easily be established at Quincy, provided a fund were furnished Lieutenant Carlisle for the purpose; the establishment of this depot of repairs is rendered the more necessary for the reason that the communication between Quincy and Columbus Arsenal, Ga., the nearest place for repairs, is very often interrupted by the rising of the river. I would therefore most respectfully recommend that a depot for repairs of arms, harness, &c., be established, under charge of Lieutenant Carlisle, at Quincy, Fla., who is a willing and very energetic officer, and fully acquainted with the duties he is called upon to perform. Further, the repairs which occasion sometimes demands to be done at once are done by the quartermaster's department, but they have as much as they can well attend to in keeping up their own repairs.

On the 10th instant, I inspected three companies of Bonaud's battalion of infantry, stationed near Quincy, Fla., doing provost duty in Quincy.

Company A, Capt. J. A. Cotten: Number of effective men present, 34; altered muskets, 33, without bayonets; number of men in company, 78; accouterments complete; these accouterments are very poor, the cartridge-boxes, waist-belts, &c., being made of canvas covered with a sort of lacquer. These accouterments I have referred to in the previous part of this report, and in my judgment they are unfit for issue to troops doing duty in the field. The waist-belts are from 3 to 4 inches too short. The men had no ammunition in their boxes, but being removed from the vicinity of the enemy it is a good plan, as the cartridges are thus saved both from exposure and wear, both of which are very injurious to ammunition. These accouterments, the ordnance officer at Quincy states, were sent to him by Lieutenant Buckner, military store-keeper Charleston Arsenal; the guns of this company are kept in fair order, but the locks, &c., are much out of repair. I would respectfully suggest that this company, which is a very fine one, be armed with good arms as soon as possible. Company C, Bonaud's battalion, Capt. C. P. Crawford: Number of effective men, 65; armed with 65 Austrian rifles, with bayonets; accouterments complete, same as Company A; arms well cared for and in fair order. Station, near Quincy, Fla. Company E, Bonaud's battalion, Capt. M. T. McGregor: Station, near Quincy, Fla.; number of effective men present for duty, 47. This company has 40 Austrian rifles and 10 altered muskets; accouterments complete; 27 knapsacks on hand. Same complaint in regard to the accouterments as made about Companies A and C; arms seem to be well taken care of.

On the 14th of January, I have the honor to report inspection of Gamble's battery of light artillery. This battery consists of one 12-pounder howitzer, two smooth-bore 6-pounders, and one 3-inch rifled gun; all of these guns I consider in unserviceable condition for several reasons; the carriages are so poor that, in my judgment, rapid drilling on rolling or rough ground the carriages would break and hence render the guns useless; the hubs of the wheels are badly split and some of them entirely rotten, as well as could be observed. A knife could be run through the wood of the hub. The trails to the carriages are very badly split, the axles are rotten, limber chests badly

split. I therefore most respectfully recommend that this battery be furnished with new carriages as soon as practicable. A greater part of the ammunition of this battery is imperfect and some utterly worthless. The powder in the cartridges is caked; this may have been caused by the very damp climate the battery has been stationed in. The projectiles for the rifled gun are very poor, and the fuses of the rifle shell badly damaged. I directed the commanding officer to turn over his damaged powder and imperfect projectiles to the district ordnance officer, and at once require for good ammunition. The officers of this battery state that the practice with the rifle shell proved them very poor, none of them exploding. The harness is in tolerably fair order, but needs a good deal of repairing; rammers, sponges, &c., all worn out, and this battery needs a complete and new outfit. There are 125 men in this company. Station, Camp Randolph, 5 miles from Saint Mark's, Fla.

On the 15th of January, Captain Griffin's company, Scott's battalion of cavalry, stationed near Newport, Fla., 5 miles from Camp Randolph: 59 men; no arms; men have their own horses and saddles.

Captain Gwynn, Major Scott's battalion of cavalry, stationed near Newport, Fla.: 73 men; arms just received; smooth-bore muskets, caliber .69, in very poor condition; most of the locks in very bad order—lock-bound, &c. General appearance of arms very bad, and will doubtless soon become unserviceable. The men have no cartridge-boxes to carry their ammunition in. Men have their own saddles generally; pretty fair ones.

Captain McElvey (no letter to company), Major Scott's battalion of cavalry, stationed near Newport: 67 men; arms just received; same condition as those of Captain Gwynn—very poor. This company is supplied with ammunition which is in good condition; they have also cartridge-boxes.

On the 14th were inspected the company of Captain Simmons, Company G, Second Florida Cavalry, armed with Maynard rifles and sabers; 71 men present; arms in good condition, well taken care of, but have only 5 rounds of ammunition. None of the companies armed with Maynard rifles are able to procure a supply of ammunition, owing to its peculiar character, requiring brass cylinders, which the ordnance officers state they cannot procure. Saddles fair. This company, stationed at Camp Randolph, 5 miles from Saint Mark's, acts as support to Gamble's battery. The company of Captain Blocker, stationed at Punch Bowl, on Ocklockonee Bay, 12 miles from Camp Randolph, armed with Maynard rifles and sabers; only 4 or 5 rounds of ammunition, the difficulty of procuring it being the reason for not being properly provided.

On the 15th of January, I inspected the company of heavy artillery commanded by Captain Campbell, acting as a garrison to the battery of Saint Mark's, Fla.; 125 men; armed with British muskets, caliber .75, in good order; accouterments of leather and in good condition; ammunition dry and in serviceable order; have 70 rounds of ammunition for arms.

On the above date the battery at Saint Mark's, Fla., was inspected. This battery mounts five guns. The gun carriages are very inferior; four of the guns have been in casemate, but are being changed to barbette. There is no magazine at this battery, and the powder and ordnance stores are kept in a room in the same house that the garrison sleep in, which is, of course, very dangerous, and should be corrected as soon as possible.

A new magazine is under way and will, I am informed, soon be completed; the battery is well supplied with the requisite ammunition, and the ordnance stores are in good condition. The battery is supplied with the requisite implements. There are two batteries commanding the obstructions on the Apalachicola River situated at the Narrows. The upper battery consists of one 24-pounder and one 32-pounder. The carriage for the 24-pounder is an 18-pounder carriage, and therefore too small; it has no trunnion plates; chassis rails much worn; spokes of this carriage all very loose, and the chucks badly split. After a few discharges I think this carriage would become unserviceable. The carriage of the 32-pounder moderately good, but all of the carriages are sadly in want of paint. The magazine of this battery is badly built, for recently the water has risen over the floor. The ammunition tolerably good; powder does not appear damaged. This battery being completely surrounded by water when the river is at all high, it is very necessary the magazine should be above high-water mark. This battery is garrisoned by Captain Blount, Company F, Bonaud's battalion. Lower battery, near upper, covering the obstructions, carries three 32-pounders; same objection to magazine as one in upper battery. None of the carriages are in good order; chassis rails much worn, and carriages, &c., want paint very much. This battery is well supplied with ammunition; the powder appears dry. The distance to the obstructions is some 700 yards, and this is the distance the shell should have been fixed for, because the river makes an abrupt bend, and the land is covered with dense wood; the fuses should have been 3 or 4 seconds, not over 4, and less would have been preferable; but all their shells have 5 or 10 second fuses in them fixed. The proportion of canister and grape is, in my judgment, much too small, and hence the proportion of solid shot and shell too great, for, from the very location of this battery, I infer it was never intended to use the guns at high elevation. This battery is garrisoned by Captain Godwin's company (G), Bonaud's battalion of Georgia infantry, 14 miles below Chattahoochee; 195 men in regiment, armed with smooth-bore muskets, which are kept in beautiful order; accouterments of leather in fair order; sufficiency of ammunition, in good condition.

On the 22d, two companies of Bonaud's battalion of infantry stationed at and garrisoning the batteries on the Apalachicola River covering the obstructions. At the lower battery, Company F, Captain Blount: Number of men, 73; number of arms, 47; company have 47 Austrian rifles, which are in fair order; the ammunition is good, lately received; canvas accouterments very poor; waist-belts too small. Company G, Captain Godwin: 72 men; 49 Austrian rifles, lately received; accouterments same as those of Company F; well supplied with small-arms ammunition.

On the 23d, Companies B and D, Bonaud's battalion, stationed at Hammock's Landing, 14 miles below Chattahoochee: Armed with Austrian rifles; canvas accouterments lately issued; waist-belts too short; arms and ammunition show care and attention. Capt. A. C. Smith's company of Scott's battalion of cavalry stationed at Rickoe's Bluff, 50 miles below Chattahoochee, on the Apalachicola River; no letter to company. Number of enlisted men in company, 87; armed with Austrian rifles and sabers; number of arms, 79; very little ammunition on hand, and it is very necessary to have this company well supplied with ammunition, as this company sends a



picket to Bloody Bluff, which is the nearest picket-post on the river to the enemy. Arms in only tolerable order. The company have in use some private and some public saddles; this company was inspected on the 21st of January.

Captain Thigpin's company (A), Second Florida Cavalry, stationed on Dead Lakes, some 90 miles below Chattahoochee, Fla.: 67 men for duty; no Government arms; private arms in hands of company; 4 flint-and-steel Sawyer, 14 Harper's Ferry rifles, 9 carbines, 4 private shotguns, 29 State shotguns. Saddles good; company well supplied with ammunition for present purposes.

First Regiment Georgia Regulars, Colonel Magill, stationed near Hammock's Landing: The battery at Hammock's Landing, 14 miles below Chattahoochee, on the Apalachicola River, consists of six guns, three 18-pounders, one 24-pounder, two 32-pounders. This battery is garrisoned by Companies B and D, Bonaud's battalion. The battery shows care and attention. Major Bonaud seems to have given his personal attention to the guns, &c. The guns, ammunition, &c., are in fair order; some few implements are needed, for which requisition had been made. The magazines of this battery are very poorly constructed, and when it rains at all hard the water flows in and the magazine floors soon become covered with water. This is a serious evil and it should be corrected as soon as practicable. Powder was dry, as well as could be observed; many of the fuses fixed in the shells are damaged. The commanding officer was instructed to turn in these shells to the ordnance officer of his district.

On the 27th, the Sixth Battalion of Florida Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Martin commanding, armed with Enfield rifles and smooth-bore muskets: The companies are uniformly armed, and the arms in fine order; many of the guns I, however, observed had the names of the men cut on the stocks of the guns. I called the attention of the senior captain in charge of this battalion to the fact that cutting the gun-stock, &c., is an abuse of public arms, and hence a punishable affair. I desire to report the excellent condition of the guns in the hands of the following men: Corporal Corrigan, Private Josiah Dixon, Private O. Corrigan, Company A, Sixth Florida Battalion, Lieutenant Davis commanding; Private Spanski, Company F, Captain Mootey.

The guns in the remaining part of this battalion in fair order. Station, Camp Pinegan, within 8 miles of Jacksonville, Fla., near railroad. Inspection made on the 27th day of January. Company D, Captain Tucker, all armed with smooth-bore muskets, which Captain Tucker seems to have taken great care to put and keep in good order. This battalion carries their ammunition, say 40 rounds, in their boxes, and the paper of the cartridges has become very much worn, and in some instances so much that the powder has fallen out, leaving no powder at all in the cartridge. I therefore respectfully submit that where troops are not in the immediate presence of the enemy it would be well to keep the ammunition in the ammunition boxes, only allowing the men a few rounds for emergencies; thus the major part of the ammunition would be well preserved, which, by the constant friction in the cartridge-boxes, is rendered often unserviceable. There were very few ordnance stores in depot at Lake City, Fla. Some 300 smooth-bore Tower muskets and 150 Mississippi rifles, which Lieutenant Buckman, ordnance officer, informs me can soon be put in good repair; the latter would be

very good to place in the hands of the cavalry in Middle Florida, which are armed in a very inferior manner. Lieutenant Buckman informs me that the height of the Chattahoochee River has prevented him from obtaining the stores from Columbus, Ga., Arsenal, for which he had required.

On 27th January, two companies of Second Florida Cavalry, Col. Caraway Smith, were inspected. Station, Camp Finegan, within 8 miles of Jacksonville, Fla. Companies F and K, Captains Rou and Jones: These companies are armed with the Enfield rifle, and the guns are in very fine order, but, as in case of Sixth Florida Infantry, carry too much ammunition in their cartridge-boxes. I found some cartridges with no powder in them at all, caused by the paper wearing out by friction. Saddles, fair; armed also with sabers.

As far as I could observe I am of the opinion that the Government property in the hands of troops in Florida, such as arms, accouterments, &c., is well taken care of, and is generally in good order, especially the arms, which in several commands are in the most excellent order.

I have the honor, colonel, to submit the above report.

Your obedient servant,

L. JAQUELIN SMITH,  
*Captain, Artillery, Assistant Chief of Ordnance.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT,  
*Charleston, February 13, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Maj. John G. Barnwell, inspector of ordnance of the department, for his remarks.

J. R. WADDY,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief Ordnance Officer.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT,  
*Charleston, February 22, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters.

Approved.

J. R. WADDY,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief Ordnance Officer.*

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 25, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to the chief of artillery, for his information.

He will prepare therefrom a synopsis of orders to meet the recommendations contained in this paper which may meet with his approval, to render that branch of the service more efficient.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CHIEF OF ARTILLERY,  
*Charleston, March 4, 1864.*

Respectfully returned.

A synopsis of orders\* relating to such batteries in Florida as were not visited during his late inspection by Major Mayo, my inspector,

\*Not found; but see Beauregard's memorandum of April 5, following, which was probably based on Gonzales' recommendation.

is herewith inclosed. For orders in reference to other heavy batteries, as well as all the light artillery in the State of Florida, I beg to refer the commanding general to the synopsis of orders on the report of my inspector, Major Mayo, of 5th January. After complying with the orders of the commanding general I beg respectfully to represent that the inspection of ordnance and ordnance stores in the hands of the artillery appertains properly to this department, as has already been decided by the commanding general. The chief of ordnance would as justly object to my ordering an inspection of his central ordnance depot or of any of the depots under charge of his subordinates, as the chief of artillery objects to inspections of batteries made by the ordnance officer.

The inspection of artillery is different from that of small-arms, accouterments, &c., for the reason that there is no exclusive inspector provided for the latter, whereas the inspector of artillery has no other inspection but that of ordnance and ordnance stores in the hands of the artillery; besides, two inspections from two different departments, as is very much the case in the present instance, may occur nearly at the same time, necessitating double labor with only one result. Then, again, the views of different officers may clash upon the same subject, and the uncertainty which arises confuses rather than enlightens. Lastly, upon the same principle that an officer is not considered an impartial judge of the condition of his own command, an ordnance officer, as a general thing, could not be expected to be impartial as to the original character of ordnance stores furnished by his department to the department of artillery that he is at the time inspecting.

If the want of an inspector in my department should ever be so great as to cause detriment to the public interest, I would be thankful for the temporary services under my orders of any of the accomplished officers of the Ordnance Department, and I would most gladly reciprocate should that department find itself in the same predicament by tendering to it the temporary services under its own orders of my present assistant, Major Mayo, specially qualified therefor, as he has been, not long since, chief of ordnance of the Department of Mississippi and East Louisiana.

A. J. GONZALES,

*Colonel and Chief of Artillery of the Department.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., April 5, 1864.

Memoranda of orders to be issued in reference to guns in position in Middle Florida:

First. The 18-pounder carriage at the upper battery on the Apalachicola River, upon which is mounted a 24-pounder, will be exchanged for one adapted to the gun and new rail plates supplied for the chassis as soon as practicable.

Second. The chief of engineers will cause the magazines of the upper and lower batteries (near the obstructions), and that of the battery at Hammock's Landing, on the Apalachicola River, to be properly improved or rebuilt.

Third. It having been reported that the fuses in the shells at the lower battery on the Apalachicola are too long for the range required, the commanding officer of the battery will verify this fact by actual experiment, and if the report be correct apply the proper remedy.



Fourth. All heavy batteries will be supplied as early and as far as practicable with tarpaulins for the proper protection of the ammunition.

Fifth. The chief of ordnance and his inspectors will confine their inspections of ordnance and ordnance stores of artillery to those not yet issued or still under their control. The chief of artillery and his inspectors are responsible for the inspection of all heavy and light batteries and their ordnance supplies already issued. Should the chief of ordnance desire information relative to such ordnance and ordnance supplies he shall call for it on the chief of artillery, who will furnish it at once. Should the latter be unable to do so without undue delay the chief of ordnance will then be authorized to send one of his own inspectors to procure the information desired.

G. T. B.,  
*General, Commanding.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *February 10, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Simonton reports that another steamer came up the Stono early this morning and anchored by the side of the one which has been in the river for the past three days, but she went down again about 10.30. There is again a working party on the Dixon's Island earth-work, but it is as yet impossible to ascertain what they are doing, as they are at work in the rear of the epaulement, which is completed. They are also at work on the bridge connecting Dixon's Island and Horse Island. During the morning the firing of light artillery and small-arms was heard on John's Island.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*Fripp's House, John's Island:*

Commanding general wishes you to withdraw from your works as many of the infantry supports as you deem prudent, to increase your operating force as much as possible, to strike a blow if opportunity shall serve.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*Rantowles, S. C.:*

General Colquitt and three regiments are at Rantowles ready to support you if necessary; you can call on him direct.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*Adams' Run, S. C. :*

Stop any of Colquitt's regiments that may get to Adams' Run and order them back to Rantowles with three days' rations.

By order of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864—8.30 a. m.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*John's Island, S. C. :*

When your re-enforcements shall be near enough endeavor to ambuscade enemy and then pursue him vigorously. Select well your ground. Have sent my chief engineer, Colonel Harris, to report to you for temporary duty.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island :*

The order suspending the movement of Colquitt's brigade is revoked. That portion of it now in the Seventh Military District will proceed at once by rail to Savannah, as previously ordered.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island :*

Order the regiments of Colquitt's brigade to Rantowles with three days' rations at once, to await orders.

By order of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island :*

Which of the regiments of Colquitt's brigade left yesterday and which of them left to-day? Please answer at once. Have you three of them on James Island now?

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *February 10, 1864.*

Capt. JOHN M. OTEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: The Sixth and Nineteenth Georgia Regiments left yesterday. The Twenty-third and Twenty-eighth are on the march to Rantowles. Zachry has just been relieved at Fort Johnson by Nelson's battalion. He will march to Rantowles to-morrow morning, unless there is pressing necessity for him to go to-night.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

[Indorsement.]

No; none.

G. T. B.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island:*

Zachry's (Twenty-seventh Georgia) regiment, with three days' provisions, will move at 3 in the morning to the support of General Wise on John's Island, crossing at John's Island Ferry, if practicable. Brigadier-General Wise has been telegraphed to send a guide for it.

Answer.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island:*

A member of the signal corps familiar with the route reports the John's Island Ferry practicable. Make the effort to put Zachry's regiment across. There is one flat at the ferry and two boats on the shore that can be used.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Commanding Seventh Military District:*

Zachry's regiment can wait until to-morrow morning to march to Rantowles. Provisions will be ordered there as desired.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *February 10, 1864.*

Capt. JOHN M. OTEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Colonel Zachry has been ordered to move to the aid of General Wise at daybreak to-morrow morning, crossing at John's Island Ferry, if practicable. He will take three days' rations with him.

W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*



ROYALL'S HOUSE, *February 10, 1864.*

General JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff :*

GENERAL: I have ordered Colquitt's two regiments to march at once, as it is only 8 miles to Rantowles. They have two days' rations, which expires to-morrow night. Will you order Major Guerin to forward to them such rations as are needed, as they are now out of my district? They are on the march. Will you answer about the commissary stores?

WM. B. TALIAFERRO.

[Indorsement.]

Captain Otey will see inside and order accordingly.

G. T. B.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864—7 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,

*Comdg. Sixth Dist., Signal Station, John's Island :*

Colquitt will leave Rantowles in the morning to support you with two and a half regiments. Another regiment will cross at John's Island Ferry, if practicable, otherwise at Church Flats; send it a guide. Threaten prisoners to get at truth of enemy's force. I can furnish you no more assistance. Batteries on Stono must not be left entirely unsupported.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Col. J. H. NEAL,

*Nineteenth Georgia, Rantowles :*

Join the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-third Regiments at Rantowles, and move with General Colquitt to the support of General Wise on John's Island. Provisions and ammunition have been ordered to Rantowles. Acknowledge receipt. Has General Colquitt arrived at Rantowles?

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. A. H. COLQUITT,

*Rantowles :*

You will move with the Twenty-third and Twenty-eighth and Nineteenth [Georgia] Regiments to the support of General Wise on John's Island.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS,  
*Commanding Sub-Marine Defenses, Charleston, S. C.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to inquire when you are going to try the floating torpedoes against the enemy's fleet in the main channel along Morris Island. He thinks it should be done as soon as possible.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 10, 1864.*

General J. F. GILMER,  
*Commanding, &c., Savannah:*

GENERAL: I have only one 42-pounder, banded and rifled, disposable; shall it be sent to Savannah or Red Bluff?

Look to the best method of preventing the enemy from occupying Elba Island, for the purpose of shelling Savannah, if practicable, from there.

When at Fort McAllister last I ordered a small rifled "wall piece" to be sent here for use in Sumter; if it has not been done renew the order at once and have it sent to Colonel Waddy.

Has Commander Hunter reported yet whether he could transfer to you the Brooke 6.40 gun which had its muzzle shot off? As soon as you get the gun have it properly cut off and banded. I will send you from here a bed for it. This gun is intended to be used, as you are already informed, against the enemy's naval depot, shops, &c., in Scull Creek near Hilton Head.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

TALLAHASSEE, *February 10, 1864.*  
 (Received 11th.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War:*

The enemy hold Baldwin and Sanderson and the telegraphic operators and their instruments. Wanted re-enforcements both in East and West Florida. At least 5,000 additional troops are necessary to prevent the destruction of all public as well as private property, and to save Florida. Without prompt help all will be lost.

JNO. MILTON,  
*Governor of Florida.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA,  
 No. 29. } *Lake City, February 10, 1864.*

1. Lieut. D. Rambo, commanding detachment at Wellborn, will detach 20 men, under a non-commissioned officer, to remain with the horses at that place. With the balance of the men he will report without delay to Capt. J. L. Dunham, at Lake City.

2. Captain Dunham will prepare his two howitzers now at this place for immediate duty. He will select such men as he may require from the detachments of his own and Captain Abell's companies, and will report without delay to Maj. A. Bonaud.

3. Maj. A. Bonaud, commanding battalion, will proceed at once with his battalion, a section of Dunham's artillery, Captain Crawford's company infantry, and all the cavalry at this place to the west side of the Saint Mary's River between where it is crossed by railroad and Barber's Bridge. He will take position and endeavor to prevent any advance of the enemy. He will establish communication with a point as near the enemy as possible, and will report promptly anything of importance that may transpire. Quartermaster will furnish transportation for the above movement.

4. Maj. G. W. Scott, commanding cavalry, and Captain Crawford, commanding Independent Infantry Company, will report at once to Maj. A. Bonaud, commanding C. S. troops at Lake City.

5. Maj. P. B. Bird, Sixth Battalion Florida Volunteers, will proceed at once to Waldo, Fla., and will endeavor to collect the men of his battalion. He will concentrate these men at Waldo and will make requisition for supplies on the army commissary of subsistence at Gainesville, Fla., and will move directly to Sanderson, Fla., and report for duty.

6. Private Charles Cone, Cone's Independent Cavalry, will report at once for duty to Maj. G. W. Scott, commanding cavalry.

7. Major Scott will proceed to Sanderson and join Major Harrison with his command. This force will keep the enemy in check as far as possible, without risking too much. Re-enforcements will be sent to-night.

8. Major Bonaud will keep his troops in camps until further orders. His command will be ready to form line of battle at any moment. His command will be inspected at 3 o'clock this evening.

By order of Brigadier-General Finegan :

R. B. THOMAS,  
*Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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SAVANNAH, *February 10, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD :

SIR: It is now more than a year since I had the honor to be consulted by you in reference to material for incendiary projectiles. The interest which you then felt in the matter, and the subsequent notice which you have occasionally given it, warranted me in the supposition that this appeal to you will not be unacceptable, and it is with greater confidence I approach you on the subject in consideration that the general design of the work originated with you, both in regard to the nature of the hand projectiles and the material for shells.

If during this long interval I had possessed the facilities for construction and experiment, and had not perfected the design, I would be chargeable with incompetency or neglect; but those facts which you may recall and the reports that I have repeatedly made will show that in all matters which my means and efforts could compass I have been both prompt and efficient, to-wit, that after the composition for the hand projectiles had been approved, I conducted experiments showing that it was not applicable to shells.



I handed in a report concerning the liquid fires which had been the subject of experiments at Woolwich, and of these presented at headquarters samples of two kinds. I then made a trial of them in shells and proved that they and, for like reason, all liquids so highly combustible were not suitable for shells.

This much was accomplished by the month of April, 1863. I then instituted experiments with solid phosphorus and ascertained the fact, on which is based the method now introduced, that a shell charged with solid phosphorus in water would on explosion deliver the phosphorus in a state of vivid combustion and as a semi-fluid. I then, on account of the great cost of phosphorus, sought to make such combinations as would reduce the quantity of this substance without impairing its qualities. In this I believe that I am successful, and have reported accordingly.

The first public experiments were made in August or September last, before General Mercer and the chiefs of ordnance and artillery at Savannah, and the report thereon by Col. C. C. Jones was highly commendatory. Since then I have sent to General Jordan and to officers of the ordnance department a number of these shells, amounting in all to 93.

This has been done in conformity with orders, but nevertheless at my own risk, inasmuch as the cost has been paid by me, and if they were not accepted I would not be repaid. But of these shells I have scarcely had any information since they left me, a long time since.

I received the copy of a report showing that certain rifle shells had been tried and that the charge of powder was insufficient, but that the composition was satisfactory, and on the 23d December a communication informing me that some of the shells had been reported upon unfavorably. Beyond this I have no instruction in the matter. I do not know what shells were received, what were tried, whether the fuses failed, or if the charges were deficient, or if the composition was more or less combustible than it ought to be. Should there be such defects they are easily remedied.

I do not know whether it is expected of me to continue to work in the dark, but for some time past I have been waiting for instructions and am now doing nothing in the matter. That I regret this is evinced by my frequent importunities.

I would not, however, have ventured to thrust my services and doubts upon your attention, except for a fact which seems to call upon me for some performance, which is, that I have found at the railroad depot a large quantity of phosphorus consigned to me; from the weight I conjecture that it is enough to charge two thousand 8-inch shells. I have received no letter relative to it, neither do I know where it comes from, nor can any one inform me about it. That it comes to me in consequence of an application made by General Jordan to the Chief of Ordnance, I do not doubt, but until I have specific orders for the preparation of shells I cannot proceed, and unless I have some knowledge of the result from those shells that I have prepared I may go on blundering to the end.

In fine, if it is desired that I should continue this work it will be necessary to put it in charge of an officer of the ordnance department at Savannah, so that I shall neither be responsible for delays or costs.

I consider that in August last I had completed all that I was called upon to effect, and that to bring the design to useful results it was only necessary, as in all other practice, to adopt a shell of

uniform pattern and to decide the charges by trial. In the small number of shells furnished I have had many different patterns. I have expended much labor and money upon them and know no more of their capabilities than I have already told you. Under these circumstances I can make no progress. I can receive no orders. The matter stands in a light prejudicial to it and discreditable to me. Should you think fit to put the work in charge of Lieut. A. T. Cunningham, ordnance department, at Savannah, I will cheerfully continue the work under his orders and supervision.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,  
JOHN R. CHEVES.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,  
*Richmond, Va., February 11, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Charleston:*

General Polk reports the enemy, with about 35,000 infantry and with cavalry (number unknown) and some sixty pieces of artillery, after destroying stores at Jackson and Brandon and tearing up bridges behind them, to be moving from Morton, Miss., apparently on Mobile. General Polk has with him Loring's division and the cavalry, having sent the rest of his troops back to Mobile. General Johnston has been telegraphed to render all the aid in his power to General Polk. General Longstreet telegraphs he is moving forward and expecting co-operation from General Johnston. On both grounds re-enforcements for Florida cannot be spared by him. The enemy in Florida must be met by the troops there and from Charleston and Savannah. Unless you propose going there in person it is recommended General Gilmer be sent to command and repel the enemy in Florida. No re-enforcements can be sent you, unless a brigade or so from North Carolina, and then only in case of plain necessity, as their removal would uncover the east and railroad line of that State.

JAMES A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 11, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS,  
*In charge of Sub-Marine Defenses:*

GENERAL: The commanding general desires that torpedoes be placed in the Ashepoo River near Heyward's Landing, and in the Combahee near the bend below Burnett's.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 11, 1864.*

Flag-Officer TUCKER,  
*Commanding C. S. Naval Forces Afloat, Charleston:*

SIR: Cannot the David be assigned to duty in the Stono River? The enemy having removed the torpedoes laid near the obstructions,

I think it would be extremely desirable, before sending this boat to the Stono, to destroy one or more of the enemy's small guard-boats that picket between Schooner Creek and Cumming's Point, so as to make the enemy fear an attack on the latter spot.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *February 11, 1864.*

Capt. JOHN M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Your telegram has been received, and the order to open all the guns bearing on Morris Island at 2 o'clock to-night extended. General Taliaferro has not returned from the city yet.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,  
*Brigadier-General.*

ROYALL'S HOUSE, *February 11, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN, *Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Simonton reports that the gun-boat in Stono was relieved last night by another the same size. She lies in the same position. About 9 a. m. a mortar schooner in Folly River practiced firing 7 shots at Legaré's burnt house. The bridge and causeway between Dixon's and Horse Islands is finished at last, apparently. They are yet working on the earth-work on Dixon's Island. A large gun-boat, the Pawnee, went up Kiawah River this afternoon. I visited the signal station at Fort Pemberton to-day. They are in free communication with John's Island.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island:*

Just before you open on Morris Island send up three rockets from every available point for rockets. You will also open every gun bearing upon Black Island upon that island.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY, *Mount Pleasant:*

Open all the guns of your command bearing on Morris Island on that island at 2 o'clock to-night and keep up the fire for one hour and a half. Acknowledge this dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

(Same sent Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro, Royall's, James Island.)



CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant :*

Just before you open your guns on Morris Island send up three rockets from every available point for rockets.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*John's Island :*

All the guns on James and Sullivan's Islands will open at 2 o'clock to-night on Morris Island to create a diversion in your front.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*Commanding, &c., John's Island, S. C. :*

Soon as you shall have repulsed enemy let Colquitt's brigade proceed on to Savannah, where orders await him.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1864—8.15 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Success of Finegan must not delay his re-enforcements. Telegraph him to know where they shall meet him, and send them by shortest route in time of traveling.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Send all the companies of Clinch's cavalry that you can spare to take up position near Barber's place, on the south prong of Saint Mary's, south of the Saint Mary's River, on the flank and rear of the enemy, the commanding officer communicating with General Finegan, who is at Lake City. This is only temporary.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—11 a. m.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Commanding East Florida, Lake City, Fla.:*

Do not fight when expecting re-enforcements unless compelled or certain of success. In such case maneuver to delay enemy. You can expect no more re-enforcements at present from Georgia than those already announced you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—12 m.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga.:*

Let troops of Colquitt's brigade which have reached you and Harrison's regiment be sent on at once by shortest route to aid Finegan, with five days' subsistence and 100 rounds of ammunition.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—12.30 p. m.

His Excellency JOHN MILTON,  
*Governor of Florida, Tallahassee, Fla.:*

Recent developments induce me to add to force already sent to General Finegan, and all shall be done possible in the exigency.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga.:*

Enemy's present movements indicate efforts to concentrate from both sides of peninsula of Florida at Tallahassee; therefore, concentration and movement on our side from Trader's Hill. I do not approve pressing to concentrate at point in rear of Finegan to prevent junction and maneuvers to strike blow on either fragment.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga.:*

Send Wheaton's battery to Florida with suitable ammunition for field service. Quartermaster and commissary must have supplies collected at suitable points in advance to secure celerity of their movements. Answer.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

Have ordered more troops to your assistance. Maneuver to check or delay enemy, but avoid close quarters with greatly unequal numbers ; lose no men you can avoid ; knowledge of country should give you advantage.

By order :

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—1 p. m.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM M. GARDNER,  
*Quincy, Fla. :*

Important to know whether enemy make a landing in force about this time on Gulf coast of Florida, Saint Mark's especially. Have measures taken to secure and forward earliest possible information soon as possible.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Lake City, Fla., or wherever he may be :*

Congratulate you on your success. I am pushing on your re-enforcements soon as practicable. Telegraph General Gilmer at Savannah where those to leave to-morrow shall reach you soonest. Do not put point of concentration too near enemy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

---

CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 11, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Other regiments Colquitt's brigade confronting enemy John's Island, but it is proper will be sent you soon. Have you no one who can read enemy's signals ?

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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CHARLESTON, February 12, 1864.  
(Received 2 p. m.)

J. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary :*

Dispatch 11th received. Under circumstances stated I will do the best practicable with my present force. Have already sent some troops to Florida ; will send rest of Colquitt's brigade soon as dis-



engaged from John's Island. General Gilmer is still too much an invalid from his eyes to take the field; moreover, he is much needed at Savannah, where he commands District of Georgia and Third Military District of South Carolina. General Finegan seems to be doing very well at present in Middle Florida. I will go there in person, if necessary, soon as enemy shall be more quiet in my front.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 12, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*John's Island, S. C. :*

I congratulate you and the troops on your success. Keep Colquitt's brigade until you shall have ended the pursuit; he will then return to Rantowles on his way to Savannah. A steam-boat awaits your orders at Fort Pemberton. On account of torpedoes it cannot go much below.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 12, 1864—12 m.

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*John's Island, S. C. :*

It is doubtful, after repulse of yesterday, if you can draw enemy into ambuscade. You may have to attack him boldly. Telegraph to General Taliaferro for some siege guns, including 30-pounder Parrotts, if you require them. They could cross from or near Fort Pemberton.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., February 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island :*

The Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers will not go by boat. It will march.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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ROYALL'S HOUSE, February 12, 1864.

Capt. J. M. OTEY :

Major Jenkins reports that the enemy evacuated John's Island last night. I had the Twenty-first [South Carolina] Regiment continue its march to that island. Please answer.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February* 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant:*

Yes; send the Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers by the boat at 6 p. m. Acknowledge dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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FEBRUARY 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga.:*

Colquitt's brigade has been ordered to proceed from Rantowles to Savannah as soon as transportation can be supplied. Have rations for it ready; also transportation to convey it to Lake City, or other point in Middle Florida, to report to General Finegan if needed. You will be notified when to expect it.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, *February* 13, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General S. COOPER:

If enemy from Vicksburg burns bridges in his rear, he must be going toward Pascagoula, to open communication with Gulf and New Orleans, for work on Mobile. Cannot he be anticipated and decoyed into starvation or surrender? I believe that the expedition from Jacksonville, Fla., was intended for Tallahassee, or Saint Mark's, to open their communication with Gulf and New Orleans.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February* 13, 1864.

Flag-Officer J. R. TUCKER,  
*Comdg. C. S. Naval Forces Afloat, Charleston Harbor:*

SIR: In reply to your letter of yesterday, I hasten to say that I have no special service in the Stono to suggest beyond the destruction of the Pawnee or Marblehead, but the chances for which, it would appear, are substantially destroyed by the want of a pilot acquainted with the channel.

It was not in Schooner Creek that I had desired the David to attempt operations, but against the enemy's barges at high tide between the mouth of that creek and Cumming's Point.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 13, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island:*

Fifty picked men, 8 non-commissioned officers, and 3 officers of intelligence and activity from the Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers will be sent to the city at once for special service, to be absent for a month. Acknowledge this dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 13, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island:*

Order the Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers back to its position in the First Military District. Call upon quartermaster's department for transportation.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 13, 1864*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant:*

Send 100 picked infantry, half armed with muskets, half with rifles, with 16 non-commissioned officers and 6 officers, to the city by transport. Quartermaster has been instructed. Boat will be at Mount Pleasant wharf at 7 o'clock this evening. Order the commanding officer of the detachment to report to these headquarters. Acknowledge this dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 13, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant:*

The Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers has been ordered back to the First Military District.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 13, 1864—4.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga.:*

Telegraph General Finegan whether he requires rest of Colquitt's brigade; if not, keep it until called for.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.



CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 13, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. MAURY,

*Commanding, &c., Mobile, Ala. :*

If enemy from Vicksburg burns bridges in his rear his objective point is Pascagoula, to open communications with Gulf and New Orleans, thence attack Mobile. Cannot you intercept his line of operations to delay him into starvation or surrender. I earnestly believe the expedition from Jacksonville, Fla., was intended for Tallahassee and Saint Mark's, to open communications thence with Gulf and New Orleans, but Finegan's success at Lake City defeated the plan.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

---

RICHMOND, VA., *February 14, 1864.*

General BEAUREGARD :

Could you in your judgment be spared from your command to proceed to Mobile and take charge of its defense?

JAS. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War.*

---

CHARLESTON, *February 14, 1864.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,

*Secretary of War :*

Am honored by your dispatch of the 14th instant. Am ready to obey promptly all orders. The siege of Charleston is suspended, doubtless, but safety of place only secured, with present means, by constant vigilance. My task is not yet over. I was about to submit a plan to free outer harbor from enemy's fleet, and possibly recapture Morris Island. Further, the enemy must be dislodged from Baldwin, Fla., which I hope to do by careful use of my resources. Could I not go temporarily to inspect and advise with officer in command at Mobile? At this late day to assume command voluntarily of its defenses is no little responsibility, and one which I dare not take.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 16, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

JAMES A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War.*

[Second indorsement.]

Adjutant-General, for advice.

J. D.

[Third indorsement.]

General Beauregard has been telegraphed that General D. H. Hill has been ordered to report to him.

S. C.

FORT SUMTER, *February 14, 1864.*

General JORDAN, *Chief of Staff:*

Is it desirable that the men of Colquitt's brigade on duty at this post shall rejoin their command? If so, they can be relieved to-night by detaining a detachment of the Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers four days over their usual time. There will be no disadvantage in their detention.

S. ELLIOTT, JR.,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. S. ELLIOTT, JR., *Fort Sumter:*

Detain the detachment of the Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers and relieve the detachment of Colquitt's brigade. General Taliaferro will be duly notified by this office.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. S. ELLIOTT, JR., *Fort Sumter:*

Owing to the heavy details made upon the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers, General Taliaferro has been authorized to include the Eleventh and Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers in making details for your command.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Royall's, James Island:*

Colonel Elliott has been authorized to retain four days longer the detachment from the Twenty-seventh South Carolina Volunteers now in Sumter to relieve the detachment from Colquitt's brigade. Order the detachment of Colquitt's brigade to rejoin its command via Savannah as soon as practicable.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY, *Mount Pleasant:*

A regiment of infantry will be detached for temporary service from your command, to report at Green Pond for service in Second Military District, to replace cavalry on temporary service in Florida. Celerity necessary.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant:*

Order a good regiment of infantry to Green Pond with as little delay as possible from Sullivan's Island. It will carry tents, cooking utensils, and baggage. Quartermaster's department will supply you transportation. Communicate with Major Pringle to what wharf you want it sent. Acknowledge dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. B. H. ROBERTSON, or, in his absence,  
Col. R. H. ANDERSON,  
*Green Pond:*

Anderson's regiment must be detached for temporary service in Florida. He will move in light marching order to Trader's Hill, Ga., with the utmost dispatch. Heavy baggage can be sent afterward if wanted. Celerity is all important to the end in view. A regiment of infantry will be sent you from here at once to replace.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. B. H. ROBERTSON,  
*Green Pond:*

General Walker has been directed to send you squadron of his cavalry.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT,  
*Adams' Run, S. C., February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE,  
*Commanding Sixth Military District:*

GENERAL: On Tuesday, the 9th instant, ascertaining that news of the landing of the enemy on John's Island had taken you thither, I remained here until the next morning, as the troops going thither might make requisition upon me for ammunition and arms. The next day I left here for John's Island, after giving particular instructions to Messrs. Davis and Dix that all calls for ammunition and arms were to be promptly supplied. I went to your headquarters on John's Island "without instructions," because a considerable portion of our brigade seemed to be in position for an early fight with the enemy, and I considered it my duty to be ready to issue or see issued the ammunition in reserve which had been taken there in wagons. Unfortunately all the ordnance wagons (so called) but those at these headquarters had been sent off for forage and, as I understood from the district quartermaster, without his orders. But for this I could have had originally more ammunition than I did. On account of this, too, I was subsequently embarrassed upon



receiving a dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper that Parker's battery needed ammunition. More than the six wagons ordered to this command for ordnance were needed to haul the ammunition from Rantowles or some point on John's Island to where the battery was stationed, and I had but one. The next morning, 10th, I received orders from you to return here to order all the ammunition and forage that might be needed for the troops on John's Island, and ordered to come there. Upon arriving at Adams' Run, the wagon of the Fourth was sent off with ammunition, and the wagon at district headquarters was likewise sent. I had met the wagon of the Forty-sixth with the requisite ammunition for that regiment upon my journey here. I found it too late after your orders were obeyed to return to John's Island the same night, my horse being much jaded. I therefore concluded to start early next morning to reach your headquarters on John's Island by 9 o'clock. During the night I received a dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper to send "an abundant supply of ammunition" for Parker's battery, as he had "exhausted his ammunition." I was somewhat surprised at this, as Captain Parker, according to his report to me, had 422 rounds in his chests; 24 rounds were on the road which I passed; in all, 446 rounds, when the capacity of his four-gun battery, caissons, and limbers was only 512 rounds, the rest having been expended in practice. Captain Parker reported on hand before the fight as follows:

	Shot.	Shell.	Canister.
On hand before the fight.....	166	189	67
On hand to-day, after the fight.....	120	50	67
Expended in action.....	46	139	.....

This statement shows that Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper was mistaken in his note to me when he says "Parker has exhausted his ammunition." He may not have meant that it was entirely "exhausted," and at any rate doubtless thought it prudent to ask for "an abundant supply." Captain Parker's horses are in bad condition, and I have since learned, though not from himself, that some of his ammunition on that account had been left some miles in the rear. I promptly made requisition for whatever ammunition Captain Parker has hitherto drawn for and have furnished him from time to time, although all my supplies come in slowly.

Captain Charles, Inglis Light Artillery, went on John's Island with two 3.5-inch Blakely rifles and two 12-pounder howitzers.

	Blakely rifles.		Howitzers.	
	Shot.	Shell.	Shell.	Canister.
Capacity of caissons and limbers.....	120	120	196	60
On hand before the fight.....	90	66	94	60
A deficiency of.....	30	54	102	.....

For every want of Captain Charles of which he informed me I had made timely requisition. I was informed two days ago in Charleston, at the ordnance department, that the Blakely ammunition had been sent for to Augusta, and that the ammunition sent did

not suit, and that the spherical case for the 12-pounder howitzers drawn for along with shell and canister could not be furnished, as it was not now manufactured at the arsenals. This is usually supplied for howitzers with shell in the ratio of 4 to 3. Captain Charles shot but very few rounds. Much of the ammunition of these batteries has been expended in practice, under orders.

On receiving Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper's dispatch, at 2.30 a. m., Thursday, I telegraphed to Lieutenant-Colonel Waddy:

Dispatch just received from Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper and General Wise, on John's Island, that the supply of ammunition for Parker's battery of four Napoleon guns is exhausted, in the face of the enemy.

Although Kanapaux had nearly 500 rounds, fearing that his and Charles' batteries might be exhausted very soon, I added:

For Parker's and Kanapaux's batteries there are needed at once 700 12-pounder Napoleon shells, fixed, 200 12-pounder Napoleon shot, fixed, 1,000 fuses, assorted, from 5-inch to 10-inch, and 2,000 good friction primers. Send this to me immediately at Rantowles Station, with a full supply of fixed ammunition for four 12-pounder howitzers and two 3.5-inch Blakely rifles. I confidently expect you will send this ammunition by the train this morning, or by special train.

Hearing from the operator that he could not get my message through, I rode to the depot, where I waited until 8 o'clock, only to find that communication with Charleston by telegraph was closed. I rode to Rantowles from thence, hoping soon to hear from Colonel Waddy, momentarily expecting that the telegraph would be again operating, which was the case about 12 o'clock.

At 3 p. m., hearing nothing from Charleston, I took the train for that place. Upon arriving there I found Colonel Waddy had shipped 400 12-pounder gun shells, 200 12-pounder gun canister, 272 12-pounder howitzer shells, and 120 12-pounder howitzer canister to John's Island, via Fort Pemberton. This ammunition did not reach Captain Parker whilst I was on the island. Going to Rantowles Station next morning I found that the troops had returned and that the steamer Chesterfield was off Fort Pemberton with the ammunition aboard. I dispatched word to her to bring to Church Flats, where it was landed under my supervision the same day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES M. WISE,

*Captain, Ordnance Officer, Sixth Military District.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICT,

*Adams' Run, S. C., February 17, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Captain Parker, through Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper, for report.

His attention is called to the fact that on evening of 11th instant he reported to the brigadier-general commanding that his ammunition was exhausted; that he had but few solid shot, and no shells. On the morning of the 12th, he reported that he had raked up 100 rounds of shot and 30 shells. By the inclosed report of the ordnance officer it appears he ought to have had on hand on the 11th, after the fight, 120 solid shot, 50 shells, and 67 canister. Please explain the discrepancy in the report made on the field.

By command of Brigadier-General Wise:

J. H. PEARCE,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

CAMP OF MARION ARTILLERY, S. CAROLINA VOLS.,  
*Church Flats, S. C., February 22, 1864.*

Capt. J. H. PEARCE, *A. A. G., Adams' Run, S. C.:*

CAPTAIN: On my return from the city last evening I found awaiting my remarks the report of Captain Wise, ordnance officer, and the indorsement of yourself. I would respectfully say that I cannot pretend to exact accuracy in recalling my words, but that I can state the facts precisely, and can only presume that there was no contradiction. On the afternoon of the 11th February, before I ceased firing, my ordnance officer (Sergeant Haig) reported to me that my shell were nearly out, "not more than 6 rounds per gun remaining." I reported the fact to Colonel Kemper, and by his orders fired more slowly, and at my own suggestion used solid shot. When the order to cease firing was given I ordered all the few shell put into my gun limbers and rode to the right, where the brigadier-general commanding was stationed, and there I think I stated "I had some solid shot and a few shell." I was not asked for an official report and made none; in fact, I could not at that moment have done so. When I returned to my battery I found the statement of my ordnance sergeant nearly correct, 27 shell being on hand; solid shot I did not then count; canister I had my full supply of, and I did not in any way allude to it. Captain Wise is mistaken in supposing that the enfeebled state of my horses had anything to do with ammunition being sent to the rear. On the morning of the 9th, before my arrival on the island, the caissons of my first section had been ordered to the rear, and I found them at Curtis Townsend's place. As soon as my extra horses arrived the caissons were brought to the front, and were there both on 10th and 11th. Three boxes of shell had been sent by me to the first section two days before the 9th. On the morning of the 9th, when the section received orders to move to the front, this unpacked ammunition was sent to the rear with all the camp equipage, and there it remained until the 11th. I did not know until after I was on the field that it had not been put into the caissons. I had it hurried forward, and found it at Matthews' place on my return from the field, on the 11th. It was put into the limbers as soon as the second section returned from picket, on the morning of the 12th, and gave me on that day 119 shot, 51 shell, and 67 canister. Any remarks made about ammunition to the general were made solely with reference to the supply on the field, and I regret that there should be the slightest misapprehension on the subject. I did say to some one while with the brigadier-general that "I had shot enough to finish them," but the remark had no relevancy. I was of course very anxious to have my wants supplied, and my previous experience, which is borne out by Captain Wise, was that supplies came in very slowly. As to any slight inaccuracy as to the exact number of shot and shell, I do not think it necessary to make any apology. It may very well occur to any one under the same circumstances. I had many other important details to look after for the feeding of my men and horses, and when not in the field was constantly employed in doing so. I deeply regret that I should unintentionally have misled any one, and must in conclusion beg to assume for myself any blame which may attach to any portion of the conduct of my battery.

EDWARD L. PARKER.

*Captain, Commanding Marion Artillery.*



[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICT,  
*Adams' Run, S. C., February 24, 1864.*

Captain Parker ought to have been precise in his words on 11th instant, and he does not state the facts precisely which he reported to Brigadier-General Wise, and his report of 22d instant is not in accordance with his verbal statement to General Wise in the field. On the 11th, he rode up to where General Wise was in position and reported verbally to him in person that he had left in his battery solid shot only and a few shells. He was interrogated specially and particularly, both by General Wise and Colonel Harris, as to whether his effective ammunition was exhausted, and his reply was that his ammunition was so nearly exhausted that he might say all was exhausted. He never mentioned canister at all. He made no formal official report, but he did make a verbal informal report in person to General Wise in the presence of Colonel Harris, in substance as stated. General Wise relied upon his report, and it was one of many reasons stated by him in his official report to General Beauregard of not pursuing the enemy on evening of the 11th instant. Captain Parker not only made a report as stated on evening of 11th instant, but on the morning of 12th instant he made another verbal report that he had on hand 100 solid shot and 30 shell, without naming canister at all. The result is that neither he or Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper knew the precise amount of ammunition that he had in hand on the field, and that General Wise was misled as to that amount by the statements of Captain Parker. He was not called upon by General Wise for a formal report, but he was interrogated by General Wise on the field and answered as above stated. It turns out that Captain Parker had left part of his ammunition on the way in the rear which he never reported to General Wise, and that the ordnance officer at Charleston and in this command were not in the least fault for the deficiency of ammunition. His present report shows that he was not accurate and not precise in the report which he made to General Wise on the field. He did not inform General Wise that he had his full supply of canister, and now admits it. His report shows that he did not know where his ammunition was on the 11th. On the morning of the 12th, he reported that he had 100 round shot, 30 shell, and never mentioned his canister. He now states that on the morning of the 12th he had 119 shot, 51 shell, and 67 canister, and he then reported that what ammunition he had "he had raked up." General Wise understood him to report as to the ammunition on the field and General Wise regrets that Captain Parker did not have his ammunition on the field on the 11th instant and that he did not precisely report the ammunition he had in hand. His supplies of ammunition were amply sufficient; the effect of his verbal report was that they were very deficient. Captain Parker ought to have known the amount of his ammunition before he went on the field and before he was disturbed by the circumstances to which he alludes. General Wise regrets to say that Captain Parker was not precise and accurate in his reports on the field, and that he is not precise and accurate in his present written report of 22d instant. In no other respect whatever is he or his battery subject to any blame for their conduct on the field on the 11th instant. He was brave, cool, and very effective in his fire. General Wise took great pride in him and his battery on that occasion and has so

reported to the general commanding. He hopes that in future Captain Parker will be particular to be precise in his information and in his reports, whether given formally or informally, called for or not.

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CHIEF OF ARTILLERY,  
*Charleston, February 28, 1864.*

It appears from this correspondence that Captain Parker was not sent for by Brigadier-General Wise, but voluntarily "rode up to him" and stated, rather than reported, that his effective (the adjective used by General Wise) ammunition" was so nearly exhausted that he might say all was exhausted. Now, the "effective" ammunition theretofore used by Captain Parker was shell (and hence the greater expenditure thereof), for the enemy not showing himself in masses or in columns precluded the use of solid shot as a desirable projectile, and, his being too distant, the use of canister. His "shell" proved afterward "on counting" them to have been but 27, a wholly inadequate number for four guns (Napoleons). It proved that he had more solid shot on hand than might have been inferred from his remarks, although he also said he had "enough to finish them." The three boxes of shell left behind by Captain Parker should have been packed before going into the field, but this only increased (on the 12th) his shell from 27 to 51, still an inadequate number for continued firing in the positions theretofore held. If the purpose of the district commander in interrogating Captain Parker, or in listening to his verbal statement, was to draw a conclusion as to his means (in artillery) for pursuing his advantages, it is respectfully submitted that a circumstantial interrogatory would have elicited a precise and more satisfactory reply, or that if Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper, General Wise's chief of artillery, then on the field, had been called by his side as was the chief of engineers mentioned in this correspondence, and if Lieutenant-Colonel Kemper had been informed of the purpose of Brigadier-General Wise to "pursue the enemy" and questioned as to the means at his command to compass such a result, no doubt that such accurate, precise, and circumstantial information as to the amount of shot, shell, and canister on hand, and their suitableness for the end in view, would have been elicited (if not on the spot) with sufficient readiness to enable the general commanding the forces to determine in season as to his future course, so far as the artillery was concerned.

Respectfully submitted.

A. J. GONZALES,  
*Colonel and Chief of Artillery of the Department.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., February 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. S. WALKER,  
*Pocotaligo, S. C.:*

Anderson's regiment ordered temporarily to Florida. In absence detach a good squadron acquainted with country to report to General Robertson.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Anderson's regiment cavalry ordered from Green Pond to Florida via Trader's Hill. Please let staff officers have supplies of forage and [*sic*] by wayside at proper places to secure celerity.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Send Colquitt's brigade to General Finegan at Lake City soon as possible by shortest route.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

If you need more light artillery call on General Gardner, Middle Florida, for it.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM M. GARDNER,  
*Quincy, Fla. :*

Hold your light artillery in readiness, subject to requisition from General Finegan.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 15, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. S. ELLIOTT,  
*Fort Sumter :*

Relieve Colquitt's men to-night, so they can rejoin their brigade. By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



ROYALL'S HOUSE, *February 15, 1864.*

General JORDAN, *Chief of Staff:*

Colonel Simonton reports that the gun-boat that ran up Stono this morning and shelled John's Island, went down this evening about sundown. One gun-boat is in Folly River. The shelling to-day was all at John's Island.

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 15, 1864.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

All quiet here. General Finegan reports enemy fortifying at Baldwin. Am sending him all re-enforcements I can spare to dislodge him. I may have to call for one brigade from North Carolina to aid him—only if absolutely necessary.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. SEVENTH MIL. DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

*February 16, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have to call the attention of the commanding general to the fact that the troops of this district have been without meat for several days, and the depot commissary reports that it is uncertain when a meat ration can be again issued. The service required of the troops of this district is severe. The length of the lines, the immediate presence of the enemy along our front, and their ability to make sudden demonstrations or attacks at any moment necessitates the utmost vigilance, and the heaviest picketing which troops can possibly bear.

The fatigue and exposure consequent upon this heavy duty will, I fear, seriously affect the health of the command, if it is not supplied with strengthening food, and I earnestly ask that steps be taken to secure such energy and efficiency in the commissary department as will insure a regular supply of meat rations to the troops. It gives me pleasure to state that the troops have borne these privations with a patriotic and most commendable endurance and good spirit, but their physical condition will be seriously impaired, unless they are supplied with such food as will maintain their strength.

I have the honor to inclose communications from Major Hay, commissary of subsistence, and Captain Fleming, First South Carolina Artillery, on this subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Brigadier-General.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,

*Charleston, S. C., February 17, 1864.*

Respectfully referred for the remarks of Major Guerin.

By command of General Beauregard:

H. WEMYSS FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,  
*Charleston, February 17, 1864.*

Respectfully returned.

Two commissaries of the staff of General Taliaferro and the post commissary of James Island are out trying to get meat for the command. I believe that with these means and those permanently employed by the department, which I have stimulated in every way that I could, the troops have got as much meat, and will continue to get as much, as the country affords.

The tithe bacon will soon be coming in to relieve the want while the supply from this source lasts. Purchases and impressments will be attempted besides, but the main dependence for meat next summer is Florida. If that should fail the privation, I fear, will be greater, but not greater than troops have borne elsewhere, and are evidently willing to bear when the state of the country becomes known to them.

H. C. GUERIN,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 18, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for information of the War Department.  
G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

[Fourth indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 24, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Commissary-General, for his views, &c., before submission to Secretary of War.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

[Fifth indorsement.]

OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,  
*February 25, 1864.*

The War Department has been sufficiently informed of the views of the Commissary-General, and of the condition of the country and the effect of the laws and orders of the War Department which bear on the meat supply and existing deficiency of it. It is likewise informed of the loss of productive country by our armies; of the destruction of meat by the retreat of troops; of the losses in running the blockade; and these difficulties are rendered more potent by the interference with the agents of the Bureau. I urge that no more changes of agents be allowed, except at the discretion of the Commissary-General.

Respectfully,

L. B. NORTHROP,  
*Commissary-General.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY,  
*Fort Johnson, February 13, 1864.*Capt. P. K. MOLONY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I would respectfully call your attention to the irregularity in the commissary department, and earnestly ask that measures be immediately adopted to rectify it. Not more than four days out of ten do the men get their ration of beef. At times flour is issued in its stead, and occasionally lard, at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ounces to the ration.

In addition to their ordinary duties as artillerists they are doing exceedingly heavy picketing as infantry, and are on duty two out of three nights. It surely, then, is their due that they should regularly receive full rations.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FLEMING,  
*Captain, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

OFFICE BRIGADE COMMISSARY,  
*James Island, February 14, 1864.*Capt. P. K. MOLONY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: It becomes my duty to report that the troops have been without the usual meat ration for several days. I see no prospect of having the deficiency supplied from Charleston.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. G. HAY,  
*Major and Commissary of Subsistence.*


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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 17, 1864.*

Lient. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,  
*Dalton, Ga.:*

All quiet in Florida. Enemy still at Baldwin, but hope soon to dislodge him and confine him at least to Jacksonville.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 17, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS,  
*In charge of Sub-Marine Defenses, Charleston:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to inquire from you whether the torpedoes he ordered to be put down near the gap in the obstruction of the Stono River have been attended to.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. FEILDEN,  
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*



HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 17, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS,  
*Sub-Marine Defenses:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to say that you are authorized to take with you to Mobile the officers and men named in your letter of this date.

You will by direction of these headquarters notify the colonel of the Twenty-sixth South Carolina Volunteers, the captain of Lafayette Artillery, and captain of Company E, Eleventh South Carolina Volunteers, that those belonging to their commands are authorized to leave with you. You will call on the quartermaster's department for transportation.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

---

CHARLESTON, *February 17, 1864.*

Col. D. B. HARRIS,  
*Chief Engineer of Department:*

COLONEL: In obedience to your order I have just measured the angle at which the enemy's shell penetrated the house No. 65 King street. I obtained access to upper story and found the perpendicular height from floor to point of entrance 9 feet 10 inches, and on the floor to point of exit, 9 feet 10 inches. This shell appears to have been a 100-pounder. I have measured also several in the market, where the resistance was very slight, and find them as follows:

One 100-pounder, perpendicular height 17 feet 7 inches, base line 16 feet 10 inches,  $47^{\circ} 45''$ .

One 100-pounder, perpendicular height 19 feet, base line 18 feet,  $48^{\circ} 15''$ .

One 30-pounder, perpendicular height 13 feet, base line 8 feet,  $58^{\circ} 30''$ .

One 30-pounder, perpendicular height 14 feet, base line 10 feet,  $55^{\circ}$ .

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. LUCAS,  
*Engineer City Defenses.*

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GEORGETOWN, *February 17, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

DEAR GENERAL: I have addressed you several times officially on the subject of the inadequacy of our defenses and our forces here to making anything like a respectable defense. I take the liberty now to trouble you with a few lines upon the same subject in an unofficial note, for the truth is it would not be safe to tell, except in a whisper, the true story about the condition of things in this military district. The simple fact is that we are here only on sufferance. It may surprise you to hear that I could not concentrate

more than 300 men on any one point in less than two days at least, and of these 300 men there would not be a single infantry soldier. They would be cavalymen and artillerists solely. There need come no "ghost from the grave" to tell us that such a force would stand no chance against two respectable infantry regiments. Defeat, disaster, and censure (howsoever unmerited) would be the inevitable consequence. This whole section of country, abounding in agricultural wealth, would have to be abandoned and another line of defense taken up (in order to guard the Northeastern Railroad), which would be long, and therefore would require five times the number of men to hold it that are needed here. Besides which the navy-yard at Mars Bluff would be exposed to almost certain destruction. For even supposing their boats should not be able to navigate the river so high up, a few hundred cavalry, landed on its banks 20 or 30 miles below, could by a sudden dash complete the work of destruction in a very few hours. Now that the siege of Charleston may be considered virtually raised, my belief is that the enemy's tactics will be to make raids along the coast at all weak points. We see the development of such a plan on John's Island, and in Florida, and I am very apprehensive that we here may soon receive some attentions of the same kind from them.

For my own part I have no reputation to lose, but I feel in a great measure responsible for the defense of the military district, and I would really be very much pleased to be put in a position to make some showing to that end, and not left an easy victim to an insignificant enemy.

Very truly and respectfully, yours,

J. H. TRAPIER.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
Charleston, S. C., February 18, 1864.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: Recent events and the present state of affairs in East Florida induce me to address the Department and invoke attention to the urgent military importance of constructing a railroad connection between the Savannah and Albany (Georgia) Road and the road from Jacksonville to Tallahassee.

The distance of the road to be built and the practicability at this time, as well as all matters involved, will be found fully set forth in two communications from Maj. Henry Bryan, with inclosures, forwarded through these headquarters, the one on the 26th February and the other the 19th March, 1863.

Had this road been completed at present as suggested re-enforcements could have been thrown to the aid of General Finegan with such celerity as to lead to signal results.

I need not dwell upon the present importance of the meat and other subsistence resources of Florida, and a glance at W. Alvin Floyd's Southern Railroad Map, recently published, will show the value of such a road in the defense of that region.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 18, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

It is reported that four gun-boats have gone up the Saint Mary's River as far as King's Ferry on the 16th. This possibly looks to movement to cut off communication from Trader's Hill. Two regiments of cavalry are moving to your assistance via Trader's Hill.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

---

TALLAHASSEE, *February 18, 1864.*

(Received 3.30, 19th.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON :

Major-General Gilmer or some competent officer of rank to command forces in activity in Florida is promptly and vitally needed. All will be lost without a head to inspire confidence. That feeling is now wholly absent, and its absence is fatal to inexperienced troops. A change must be made, and that promptly. Tallahassee is now utterly exposed and defenseless, with immense value of special deposits liable to seizure, and the means or time of removal into safety more than doubles. Reliable reports exist of landing by enemy at Dead Man's Bay is confirmed. Information will be telegraphed you.

JNO. MILTON.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 19, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,  
*Adams' Run, S. C. :*

The three companies of the Forty-sixth Virginia Volunteers now in the Second District have been ordered to report to you at Adams' Run. You will hold all of the Forty-sixth Virginia Volunteers in readiness to move at a moment's notice, in light marching order, to Florida to report to General Finegan at Lake City. The regiment will move with five days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition. It will also take its transportation. You will be notified when the railroad will be prepared to move the regiment.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 19, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. B. H. ROBERTSON,  
*Green Pond, S. C. :*

Order the three companies of the Forty-sixth Virginia Volunteers to proceed to Adams' Run and report to General Wise. A company of cavalry has been ordered to you from the Third Military District. Replace the companies of the Forty-sixth with companies of the Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
February 19, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN, *Lake City, Fla.* :

Enemy's forces should on no account be exaggerated. His regiments average 600 at most, composed largely of newly drafted men and recruits ; not a match for one-half of our men, as has lately been shown on John's Island. Colquitt's brigade are veterans of many battles. Should enemy divide, collect well your forces and attack fractions boldly. General Colquitt has experience in the field. I send also Colonel Harris, my chief engineer, on whose judgment and military qualities I rely.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
No. 49. } *Charleston, S. C., February 20, 1864.*  
\* \* \* \* \*

IV. For the present, Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro is relieved from duty in the Seventh Military District for service in Florida. He will receive special instructions from these headquarters. Brig. Gen. J. Hagood will assume command of the Seventh Military District. Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro will take his staff with him.

V. Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro will proceed to the District of East Florida, and assume command of all C. S. troops concentrated in that section, and will organize the same for the present as follows :

First. Brig. Gen. A. H. Colquitt will command his brigade as now organized.

Second. Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan will command a brigade to be formed of the infantry troops of the Districts of East and Middle Florida, now under his command, with those sent him recently from the District of Georgia.

Third. Col. George P. Harrison, jr., will be placed in command of a brigade to embrace the infantry regiment transferred from South Carolina.

Fourth. The light artillery will be embodied under the command of Lieut. Col. C. C. Jones, and the siege batteries will be commanded by Maj. George L. Buist.

Fifth. The cavalry will be commanded by Col. Robert H. Anderson.

VI. Every effort must be made to have the force organized for immediate offensive movements against the enemy, whose operations are deemed favorable to that end.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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MOUNT PLEASANT, *February 20, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JORDAN, *Chief of Staff :*

Lieutenant-Colonel Dantzler reports a gun-boat sunk off Battery Marshall ; smoke-stack and rigging visible. A tug-boat and barge are around her, supposed to be the Flambeau. Another has not been seen since Wednesday night, and it may be she was blown up by the missing torpedo-boat.

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant :*

The detachment of the Eighteenth South Carolina Volunteers at Fort Sumter will be relieved to-night by a like number from your district. The quartermaster has been ordered to supply the necessary transportation.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. S. WALKER,  
*Pocotaligo, S. C. :*

Threaten the enemy in your front for several nights to come by means of rockets, drums, &c., to prevent him from sending additional troops to Florida.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. H. TRAPIER,  
*Commanding Fourth Military District :*

DEAR GENERAL : Your letter of the 17th instant has been received. I agree fully with all that you say relative to the important interests at stake in your district and the necessity of affording them better protection than at present is the case, but the great difficulty is to be able to find the troops for that purpose. The more we disseminate our small forces over extent of country not immediately connected by railroad the weaker will we render ourselves. Every time I have endeavored to spare a regiment or more for your district, the movements of the enemy here on to the southward have prevented me from carrying out my intention. At this moment I am sending off to Florida all the available troops I can possibly spare to protect that vitally important section of our country. Should the enemy drive us out of it I do not know what our armies in the field would do for meat, sugar, &c. I expect to have to go there in person to direct operations there. I am only awaiting arrival of D. H. Hill to start on my journey. After my return it is probable the troops sent there (Florida) will be directed to another important theater of war. Hence I do not really see where I shall be able to re-enforce you. I would be glad to assign you to another command, but I have none open now. They are also nearly all reduced to a "peace footing," and ere long I may find myself with an army of generals but only a handful of troops, as we were in July last.

Hoping for the best, however, I remain, yours, very truly,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

If the company of the siege train can go without delaying the movement of the Eighteenth South Carolina Volunteers, the Eleventh South Carolina Volunteers, and the Fifty-ninth Virginia Volunteers ordered from South Carolina to Florida, you can send it well supplied to Brigadier-General Finegan at Lake City. Otherwise it must remain until the troops from South Carolina are pushed through.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

The Eighteenth South Carolina Volunteers will leave here at 7.30 p. m. to-day, the Eleventh South Carolina Volunteers at 8 a. m. to-morrow, and the Forty-sixth Virginia will leave Adams' Run at 5 p. m. to-morrow. Have transportation and subsistence as ordered.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,  
*Richmond, February 20, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Charleston, S. C. :*

Governor Milton telegraphs earnestly that an officer of superior rank and reputation be sent to Florida. As General Gilmer has been ordered to Mobile, I desire your advice whether such officer is needed, and who should be sent. Would not Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson, as a Floridian, be advisable?

J. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War.*

CHARLESTON, *February 21, 1864.*

Hon. J. A. SEDDON :

This morning's telegram\* may not have answered fully yours of yesterday. I consider an able officer of sufficient rank indispensable to success in Florida. Should you send one abler than General Taliaferro he will be very acceptable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 22, 1864.

It may not be improper to add that General Beauregard's commendations of General Taliaferro have been elicited by no reference to him in my telegram, which referred simply to Major-General

\* See p. 112.



Anderson as likely, from his being a Floridian, to be acceptable. General Taliaferro's promotion would be very acceptable to me, but as he is a near connection (the step-son of my sister) and esteemed friend, I have felt delicacy in prosecuting or pressing his claims. Of his gallantry and tried determination on the field there can be no doubt, and his general capacity is, in my judgment, fully equal to most of our major-generals whom I have met.

J. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War.*

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 22, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

J. A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War.*

[Third indorsement.]

When the division expected to withdraw from South Carolina is detached it may be organized and offered an opportunity for the promotion of a brigadier-general of that command.

J. D.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 21, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,

*Adjt. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to return herewith, as directed, the following papers, namely:

First. Copy of letter from Col. John S. Preston, commandant of conscripts, April 9, 1863, to Lieut. Col. G. W. Lay, assistant adjutant-general, Bureau of Conscription.

Second. Copy of letter of Col. John S. Preston, Superintendent of Bureau of Conscription, January 15, 1864, to General R. E. Lee.

Third. Letter of Col. John S. Preston, Superintendent, &c., to His Excellency the President, dated January 22, 1864, with indorsement of the Secretary of War and of the President, the last of the 22d and the first of the 26th ultimo.

An order herewith, marked A, will show to what extent I have taken steps to give effect to the views of His Excellency, but it is proper to add that I had contemplated and given instructions looking to such an order some time since, and that such an order would have been issued previously but for the constant movement of troops in this department for months past. I feel satisfied the order will work satisfactorily, and trust will have the full approval of the War Department.

I cannot return these papers, however, without some remarks, in justice to myself and the officers of my command, in connection with the communications of Colonel Preston, both of the 9th April, 1863, and 15th January, 1864.

Colonel Preston dwells on or repeats in his communication of the 9th April, 1863, what he terms a "forcible assignment" by me of conscripts from South Carolina to regiments and companies in this department "which have never been in battle," and which he charges to have been an "injustice," while in his letter to General Lee, of the 15th ultimo, he states that the privilege of volunteering "has been

and is greatly abused, especially in the State of South Carolina ;" that is, within the limits of my command.

In the charge of "forcible assignment," I presume he refers to the disposition made in January and February, 1863, of certain men between the ages of eighteen and forty, of some eight regiments of South Carolina troops, on the discharge of those regiments after temporary service in this department, for in no other way have I ever attempted the least interference with conscripts. The language of Colonel Preston, I regret to perceive, must leave the impression that my orders and action in the premises were an abuse of authority and unauthorized.

That what I did was with the sanction of the proper authority and for the good of the service, I beg to exhibit in the following papers :

A copy of my letter, marked B, dated January 21, 1863, acquainting you that the time of the reserve regiments would expire in three weeks, when they must be discharged, to the material reduction of my force, and that therefore, unless otherwise instructed, I should construe the War Department circular of the 8th January, 1863, herewith, marked C, as authority to send officers to the camps of said regiments, before the expiration of their term of service, to enroll all persons subject to conscription, inasmuch as there must be a material loss of time if these men must pass through the camp of instruction at Columbia before I could again have their services.

Having thus duly informed the War Department of my purpose on the 29th of January, 1863, or eight days later than my letter, I issued Special Orders, No. 27, a copy of which I append, marked D, calling on all in said regiments of reserves within the ages of eighteen and forty to choose companies in regiments or battalions in this department for the war, and that all who failed to do so in due season would be assigned to regiments then in service in this department, and district commanders were severally charged with the execution of the order.

Troops were eminently needed in this department ; they were not to be spared from other quarters ; for that reason these very reserve regiments had been received by the President into the service and their retention in the State was legitimate and exigent, and was manifestly with the full sanction of the War Department. Through it, and by means of the volunteering privilege, referred to by Col. J. S. Preston in his letter of 9th April, 1863, as an abuse, the five regiments, comprising the greater portion of my infantry, sent in May and June to General Johnston, and which subsequently, in Mississippi and Tennessee, have done such stout fighting, were recruited to a strength that has so much enhanced their efficiency.

In connection with what Colonel Preston calls an abuse of the privilege of volunteering in this State, I deem it proper to exhibit :

First. That, inclosing to these headquarters an order of the Secretary of War, Mr. Randolph, dated 10th September, 1862, directing that conscripts procured by the exertions of officers detailed from regiments to act as enrolling officers, should be assigned to that regiment, Colonel Preston, on 27th September, 1862, suggested that 6 officers should be sent to report to him for that purpose. See paper herewith marked E and inclosure marked E 1.

Second. That as 6 officers would not give one to each regiment, or meet the spirit and purpose of the Secretary's order, I issued the circular herewith, marked F, to certain district officers to detail officers to report to Colonel Preston to recruit for their regiments.

Third. That having been informed by Colonel Preston (paper herewith, marked G), on the 9th October, 1862, that more officers having reported than he could usefully employ, he would return the most of them to their regiments, inasmuch "as the results of their efforts will be very meager. The conscripts under the law of April 16 are exhausted in South Carolina."

Fourth. That accordingly on the 9th October (the day following), through my staff officer I issued a circular to district commanders forbidding them from sending out hereafter any more officers to hunt up and procure conscripts. See paper marked H.

Fifth. That on the 10th November, 1862, Colonel Preston returned some 34 of the officers in question to their regiments, because, as he alleged, despite their activity and energy, they had "effected but meager results," owing to the fact of there being but "very few men liable to service within the conscript ages, eighteen and thirty-five, left in the State."

Sixth. That on the 28th November, 1862, having informed these headquarters that the Legislature of South Carolina had refused to continue the reserve regiments in service longer than ninety days, Colonel Preston requested that the colonels of those regiments should severally furnish him with lists of all their men who were between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, and that said lists were duly furnished by my direction.

From an attentive examination of the papers of this office, I can find but one instance in which it appears that the views of Colonel Preston were not accepted and orders given to carry them out. On the 5th January, 1863, it appears he proposed that the regiments of reserves should be mustered out of service at his camp of instruction at Columbia, so that the men liable to conscription might be retained in camp and assigned. As the same necessity which had brought the regiments into service was quite as strong as at any previous moment, it was preferred to have the conscripts enrolled just before the expiration of their term of service as State reserves, in the districts in which they were serving, and thus gain materially in time.

Colonel Preston, it will be observed, regarded the State as drained of all conscripts between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five, and yet it is believed that a number of that class of men are included among those who have joined companies in this department as volunteers; doubtless in many instances because they feared conscription, but who had previously been able to elude enrollment. The extension of the act and orders regulating conscription, to include all between thirty-five and forty years of age, gave the regiments and companies in this State material accessions of volunteers at once, in January and February, 1863, but ever since that time there has been volunteering to a considerable extent, apparently, of men under circumstances which induced me to believe that the privilege has not been an abuse, but that in that way there have been drawn into the Army men who otherwise would have escaped conscription to an indefinite time. The troops were wanted here, and there have never been more men in the department than were actually needed.

I have gone at length into these details because, however unintentional, the letters of Colonel Preston make a grave showing against these headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.



[Inclosures.]

HEADQUARTERS CAMP OF INSTRUCTION,  
*Columbia, S. C., April 9, 1863.*

Lieut. Col. G. W. LAY,

*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Bureau of Conscription, Richmond, Va.:*

COLONEL: I respectfully return the inclosed paper, and in pursuance of your indorsement thereon report:

That as early as the 15th January and the 1st and 5th February informed the Bureau of the probable partial assignment of conscripts in the State under the operation of circular order 8th January, and the order of the general commanding limiting the selection to regiments in this department.

I now beg leave to ask your especial attention to my letter of the 20th February, in which the whole matter is fully represented; to my report of the 1st March, in which it is more explicitly stated, and to my letter of the 7th April, returning the reference on the application of Colonel Hamilton, First Regiment South Carolina Volunteers.

In these various communications I have earnestly set forth the fact that no regiment of South Carolina volunteers outside of this military department has received any benefit from the pro-rata distribution enjoined to be observed by General Orders, 82, of 1862, and the causes therefor: First, the operation of circular order 8th January, which was not corrected until too late; second, and mainly, the forcible assignment of eight-elevenths of the conscripts of this State to regiments in this department by order of the general commanding. This latter proceeding has glutted regiments and companies which have never been in battle to an extent not known elsewhere in the service. I have failed in no effort to prevent this injustice by timely and earnest representation.

As you will perceive in the communications referred to, I went so far as to suggest a reversal of the order which perpetrated it, and I have rigidly and peremptorily forbidden recruiting officers in this military department (except those whose companies were absent at the time of the forcible assignment) from approaching my camp, while I have done everything to encourage such officers from South Carolina regiments in Virginia to communicate with conscripts and to induce the conscripts to select them.

I respectfully suggest that I be ordered not to assign one conscript to a regiment which was serving in South Carolina on the 5th day of February, 1863, and to make pro-rata distribution to those serving in Virginia and Tennessee, and that the officers commanding these latter regiments be required to furnish me forthwith a statement of their actual condition, which, although repeatedly solicited, has not been done.

Please return me the inclosure.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. PRESTON,

*Colonel, A. A. G., Commandant of Conscripts.*

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION, C. S. A.,  
*Richmond, Va., January 15, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,

*Commanding:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th January. I am using every possible exertion to

enforce conscription. I fully appreciate the necessity of adding every attainable man to the army. My material for executing the law is not such as I would select for efficient service. I endeavor to supply the defects by unremitted effort to enlighten, inspire, and direct my officers. There are many grave impediments which I cannot overcome and which the law has failed to remove. State, executive, and judicial authority, popular disaffection, incomplete and indefinite classification, the want of authority for efficient organization, incompetent officers, all combine to render the service less productive than could be desired. In some of the States I have recently found a condition of chaotic confusion which renders the law utterly valueless for the supply of men to the army. I trust Congress will at an early day do something to remedy such evils as are within reach of law, and remove such impediments as prevent the due administration of the law. If this is done I think I can promise for the field, in time for the next campaign, every man the law provides for being sent there.

The privilege of volunteering has been and is greatly abused, especially in the State of South Carolina. For more than a year I have endeavored, without remission, to prevent this abuse and to remedy it. My protests, both as commandant and superintendent, have amounted almost to insolence to my superiors. I could send you a dozen documents in proof of my resistance to the injustice. I beg you to read the one I send, dated in April last, and referring to others of anterior date. I have continued making the like representations up to this time. You were present when I earnestly pressed the matter on the President. I venture to suggest that you would do much for the public service and for impartial justice if you could procure an order that no conscript should be assigned to, and no volunteer admitted into, a regiment which was in service in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida on the 1st day of June, 1863.

In a few days I will have the honor to communicate to you whether it will be needful for me to accept your offer to send me officers to "aid the enrolling officers in the different States."

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. PRESTON,  
*Colonel and Superintendent.*

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION,  
*Richmond, January 22, 1864.*

His Excellency President DAVIS :

SIR : In connection with the matter of General Lee's letter which you read to me, concerning the abuses of volunteering and assignment in South Carolina, I have the honor to submit the inclosed papers.

By these you will be informed that I have resorted to every prescribed means to prevent the evil, and have also, with the same view, exercised a large discretion. The remedy is not within the competency of the conscription authorities. On my recommendation the Secretary of War has sent a special inspector to examine and report on the subject. I venture to express the hope that General Lee's suggestion may be adopted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. PRESTON,  
*Colonel and Superintendent.*

[First indorsement.]

JANUARY 22, 1864.

## SECRETARY OF WAR :

The means adopted are the natural and proper ones. In addition to them, the services of the commanding general might be made available. The illegal organization of new companies composed of conscripts is to be remedied by the enrollment of the men and their assignment to companies, as provided by law and regulations. Wherever a company exceeds the maximum the excess should be transferred. Another remedy seems appropriate, which is to exchange the full regiments which have not seen service for the skeletons reduced by campaigns and battles. In the cavalry of Virginia there is need both of men and horses; that of the army of South Carolina is represented to be full. The present is a favorable period for the correction of the abuses referred to within and noted in similar communications.

J. D.

[Second indorsement.]

JANUARY 26, 1864.

## ADJUTANT-GENERAL :

Note the President's indorsement. You have sent inspectors to discover and correct the evils complained of in past. You may request the co-operation of the general commanding. Observe the other portion of the President's remarks in respect to exchange of depleted for full regiments, and, as opportunity offers, order such.

J. A. S.,  
Secretary.

A.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
No. 25. } Charleston, S. C., February 20, 1864.

I. Companies of artillery, cavalry, and infantry in this department will at once be reduced to the maximum number allowed by law, to wit :

1. For a company of cavalry, 5 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 farrier, 1 blacksmith, 2 musicians, and 80 privates.

2. For a company of heavy artillery or infantry, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 2 musicians, and 125 privates.

3. For a light battery of 6 guns, 1 sergeant-major or first sergeant, 1 quartermaster-sergeant, 6 sergeants, 12 corporals, 1 guidon, 2 artificers, 2 buglers, and 125 privates.

4. For a light battery of 4 guns, 1 sergeant-major or first sergeant, 1 quartermaster-sergeant, 4 sergeants, 8 corporals, 2 buglers, 1 guidon, 2 artificers, and 125 privates.

II. This reduction will go into immediate effect, and the attention of district commanders is enjoined. The excess in any company above the maximum will be allowed choice of companies now below the maximum in their present regiment, brigade, or military district, under the following provisions :

1. Those longest in the service and company will have precedence in the right of selection.

2. In cavalry companies which are in excess of the maximum, dismounted men who are not able to procure remounts will be transferred to infantry or artillery companies below the maximum until



the same shall be filled; but, as far as practicable, will be allowed to choose between the two arms of the service and particular company or regiment.

3. Should the number of absentees of a somewhat permanent character in any light battery of 4 guns reduce the effective strength below 84 privates, or for a 6-gun battery below 125 privates, reduction will not take place until a special detailed report is made to these headquarters, with a return of the company, showing the names of all absentees, the length of their absence, and, as far as practicable, the cause of absence or nature of employment of all detached absentees.

III. In making transfers a pro-rata distribution must be made of all privates who are borne on the rolls of the several companies of a regiment, but who are known to be disabled or absent by reason of chronic sickness and unfit for service. This should be effected in each command in a spirit of harmony and regard for the good of the service, to which end a board of three officers, including at least one field officer, should be appointed by the commander of the regiment, brigade, or military district, to arrange for a proper basis of equalization, subject to the supervision of the regimental or brigade commander and approval of the district commander.

The same board will further take into consideration and report to these headquarters to what extent it may be practicable in each or any regiment to distribute equally among the several companies thereof men detached for twelve months past as artisans in arsenals or in any workshops, and detailed in staff offices or employment.

IV. District commanders will be given thirty days from the receipt of this order to carry it into execution, and at the expiration of that time the number of transfers from each company will be given. Should all the companies in any district be filled to the maximum, a list of those men who are not transferred belonging to companies having over the maximum will be sent to these headquarters—each one making a selection of some company—to the end that, if all the companies in the department have the maximum prescribed by law, the excess may be turned over to the commandants of conscripts of the States from which they come for assignment.

By command of General Beauregard:

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

B.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., January 21, 1863.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: In three weeks the time of service of the South Carolina reserve regiments will have expired and a material reduction of my forces will take place. Unless otherwise directed, I shall construe the circular from your office, of the 8th instant, to authorize me to send officers to these regiments before the expiration of their time of service, to enroll all persons subject to conscription, as there must be material loss of time if those troops must pass through the camp of instruction at Columbia before I can again have their services.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

## C.

CIRCULAR.] ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Richmond, January 8, 1863.*

SIR: Your attention is called to the great necessity which now exists for strenuous exertions in securing men to fill up the various commands of the army within a reasonable time. You are therefore desired to detail from your command such suitable officers and men as can be spared to proceed at once to those sections of the country in which their regiments were raised for the purpose of gathering conscripts and conducting them to their commands without passing them through camps of instruction in the ordinary manner.

Every encouragement will be offered by the officers thus detailed consistent with the law and the regulations of the service, and by kind treatment and arguments addressed to the patriotism and sense of duty of citizens, to induce them to enter the service of their country. Such persons as are liable to conscription will be allowed to join any particular company and regiment requiring recruits within the command in which the officers may be serving. In like manner such persons as are within conscript ages, and who may come forward and offer themselves for service, will be allowed to volunteer, and will receive all the benefits which are secured by law to volunteers. Recruits thus obtained must, however, in all cases enter companies already in service, and cannot be organized into new companies or regiments.

The officers and men detailed by this authority will be governed generally by the acts of conscription and exemption and the regulations in connection therewith, published in General Orders, No. 82, of 1862, from this office. Copies of this order will be furnished to parties interested in this circular on application to this office.

Officers sent for the purpose of gathering conscripts should be instructed to apprehend all stragglers from the Army in their reach.

By order of Secretary of War:

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General.*

(To generals commanding military departments and districts and armies in the field.)

## D.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,  
 No. 27. } *Charleston, S. C., January 29, 1864.*

I. All members of the several regiments of South Carolina reserves now in the service of the Confederate States within the ages of eighteen and forty-five will at once be called upon to select the company and regiment or battalion of the State of South Carolina now in service of this department for the war to which they may prefer to be attached. And all who fail to make such selection on or before the expiration of their period of ninety days, for which they have been received, will then be assigned, as far as practicable, to the several regiments already in service from their respective districts or parishes, or those from the same Congressional district.

District commanders are charged with the supervision of this order, and will issue the necessary orders to insure the strictest compliance therewith.

\* \* \* \* \*

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

E.

HEADQUARTERS CAMP OF INSTRUCTION,  
*Columbia, September 27, 1862.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*Comdg. Dept. South Carolina and Georgia :*

GENERAL : I have the honor to inclose a copy of a letter from the Secretary of War concerning the assignment of conscripts. Hitherto conscripts have been gathered by enrolling officers employed by me and sent forward directly to Virginia under orders from the Department. This letter indicates that the few remaining conscripts may be assigned to such regiments as may furnish officers detailed to act as enrolling officers. I very respectfully suggest that 6 officers, belonging to such regiments as you may desire to fill, be ordered to report to me for duty as enrolling officers. On their reporting to me I will relieve the drill masters now acting as enrolling officers, or order them to act as assistants.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. PRESTON,  
*Lieut. Col., Assistant Adjutant-General, Comdg.*

E 1.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,  
*Richmond, September 10, 1862.*

Lieut. Col. JOHN S. PRESTON,  
*Commanding, &c., Columbia, S. C. :*

SIR : You are respectfully informed that conscripts procured by the exertions of officers detailed from a regiment to act as enrolling officers will be assigned to that regiment.

Your obedient servant,

G. W. RANDOLPH,  
*Secretary of War.*

F.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA,  
*Charleston, S. C., September 30, 1862.*

Brig. Gen. S. R. GIST,  
*Comdg. First Military District, South Carolina :*

GENERAL : The commanding general authorizes you to detail temporarily 1 subaltern officer from each battalion and 2 from each regiment of South Carolina Volunteers under your command, with orders to report to Lieut. Col. J. S. Preston, Columbia, S. C., and who shall enroll conscripts for their battalions or regiments, respectively.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*



G.

HEADQUARTERS CAMP OF INSTRUCTION,  
Columbia, October 9, 1862.

Brig. Gen. T. JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff, Dept. of S. C. and Ga., Charleston, S. C.:*

GENERAL: I had the honor to suggest on the 27th September that 6 officers would be profitably employed in enrolling conscripts. Already near 30 have reported and been assigned. The result of their effort will be very meager. If left to my discretion on the receipt of the first weekly reports I will begin to order most of these officers to report to their regiments. The conscripts under the law of 16th April are exhausted in South Carolina.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. PRESTON,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General, Comdg.*

H.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA AND GEORGIA,  
Charleston, S. C., October 9, 1862.

Hereafter no officers will be sent upon recruiting service for the purpose of collecting and obtaining conscripts for their commands, it being reported that there are already more officers now on that duty than can be usefully employed.

By command of General Beauregard:

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, February 21, 1864.

His Excellency JOHN MILTON,

*Governor of Florida:*

SIR: I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, and to inform you that all available troops from South Carolina and Georgia are being hurried to the assistance of Brigadier-General Finegan, but that for the want of a railroad connection between the Georgia and Florida railroads, which occasions such delays in the movements to and fro of such re-enforcements, I am unable to deplete, as I would otherwise do, those two States (South Carolina and Georgia) of a greater number of troops than I am now doing. As it is, a handsome force is hastening to your relief and I propose shortly to be in Florida myself.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS,  
February 22, 1864.

General S. COOPER,

*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that, owing to the transfer of troops now being effected from South Carolina and Georgia to Florida, a complete tri-monthly return of the troops in this department for the 20th instant could not be furnished, as the command en route were not reported in the district return of that

date. So soon as a return of the troops in and en route to Florida is received, a complete departmental return will be forwarded you with the least delay practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,  
*Wilmington, N. C.:*

General Finegan met enemy at or near Olustee, Fla., on 20th instant, in full force under Seymour, and defeated him with heavy loss. We have field of battle, enemy's killed and wounded, five pieces of artillery, large number of small-arms and prisoners, and our cavalry is pursuing. Our loss about 250 officers and men killed and wounded.

THOMAS JORDAN.

(Same sent to General Mackall, chief of staff, Dalton, Ga., and Maj. Gen. D. H. Maury, Mobile, Ala.)

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant:*

Finegan has defeated Seymour at Olustee, Fla., with heavy loss to enemy; possession of field of battle, five pieces of artillery, large number of small-arms, and prisoners and the enemy's killed and wounded. Our cavalry pursuing with vigor.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

(Same sent Brig. Gen. J. Hagood, James Island.)

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Mount Pleasant:*

Send the Holcombe Legion, with three days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition, in light marching order, to report to Brigadier-General Mercer, at Savannah, with transportation. Transportation will be ordered. Acknowledge dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. S. WALKER,  
*Pocotaligo, S. C.:*

Send the six companies of the Twelfth Georgia Battalion to Savannah to report to General Mercer.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. S. WALKER,

*Pocotaligo, S. C. :*

Direct four companies of cavalry to report to General Mercer, with least delay practicable, for service in his district.

THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,

*Savannah, Ga. :*

The Twelfth Georgia Battalion, now in Third Military District, has been ordered to report to you for the protection of the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad, or as may otherwise be needed. As soon as it arrives order the troops now en route for Florida to proceed to Florida, as ordered.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE,

*Adams' Run, S. C. :*

Send the Forty-sixth or Twenty-sixth Virginia Volunteers, with three days' rations, 100 rounds of ammunition, and transportation, in light marching order, to report to Brigadier-General Mercer at Savannah. Transportation for the regiment by rail will be ordered. Acknowledge dispatch.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN, or

Brig. Gen. W. M. GARDNER,

*Lake City, Fla. :*

May as well for the present detain all of Colonel Clinch's regiment in Florida. As soon as Anderson's cavalry in part arrives, your cavalry should be thrown, if possible, to the rear of enemy to cut communications and harass him. We must, if possible, prevent his retreat to his gun-boats should his defeat have been so decisive as to make him attempt it.

THOMAS JORDAN,

*Chief of Staff.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. M. GARDNER,

*Commanding, &c., Lake City, Fla. :*

General Taliaferro, being your junior, is now directed to report to you on his arrival. Commanding general wishes you to assign



him to command all troops sent from South Carolina, as a division. Congratulate the troops on their victory, and return them the general's heartfelt thanks.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Lake City, Fla.*  
(Through Brigadier-General Gardner):

General Gardner, having reported with his troops at Lake City, and being your senior, will be in chief command. Please transfer to him your instructions or orders from these headquarters. He will assign you to command of all the troops sent from South Carolina, as a division.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM M. GARDNER, or  
COMMANDER OF FORCES MIDDLE FLORIDA,  
*Lake City, Fla.:*

As soon as Colonel Anderson's regiment shall arrive Colonel Clinch will be directed to return to the command of his sub-district, to protect the railroad with four companies of his cavalry; other troops will be there under his orders, also for same purpose.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH MILITARY DISTRICT,  
*Adams' Run, S. C., February 23, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: In obedience to instructions from department headquarters requiring "a report of the circumstances attending the destruction of the powder" in Messerry's house, at Rantowles, I beg leave to forward you the inclosed reports of Lieutenant-Colonel White, Lieutenant Edwards, and Corporal Gravett as furnishing the fullest account of the affair within my power to give. They state all the circumstances of the case, and what information I have has been derived from their reports.

Very respectfully, &c.,

HENRY A. WISE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. HEAVY ARTILLERY, SIXTH MIL. DISTRICT,  
*Verdiere, February 17, 1864.*

Capt. J. H. PEARCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 8th instant, Lieutenant Postell informed me by note dated the 6th that on the

Wednesday following he would send a force to take down and rebuild the magazine at Battery William Washington, and desired that I would have some provision made for the ammunition therein contained; in accordance with which notice the ammunition was on the 8th instant ordered to be removed from the magazine to the basement story of Rantowles House, and a sentinel placed over it. Yesterday, at 5 o'clock p. m., the house took fire, all the buildings were burned down, and the ammunition in the house destroyed. Accompanying this communication is the report of Lieutenant Edwards, the officer in charge of Battery William Washington.

I have the honor, to be, your very obedient servant,

E. B. WHITE,

*Lieut. Colonel, Chief of Heavy Artillery, Sixth Mil. Dist.*

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel White had no authority to remove the ammunition herein named from the magazine to a dwelling-house with fire in it. He will see indorsement on the inclosed and have every particular reported.

HENRY A. WISE,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

BATTERY WILLIAM WASHINGTON,

*Rantowles, S. C., February 17, 1864.*

Col. E. B. WHITE :

SIR: I respectfully report that on yesterday evening, about 5 o'clock, the house at Rantowles caught fire and consumed the entire building, together with all the ammunition that had been removed from the magazine and placed in the basement for safe-keeping while the magazine was being rebuilt.

I used every means in my power to extinguish the fire, but my force being small and having but few buckets could not stop the fire. I deemed it entirely unsafe to undertake to move the powder as the wind was very high and the fire flying in every direction. I will also state that all the other buildings were consumed. There was a sentinel placed over the ammunition, with instructions not to allow fire to be brought near the ammunition.

Respectfully,

JOHN N. EDWARDS,

*Lieut. Co. C, Fifty-ninth Va. Regt., Comdg. Battery.*

[Indorsement.]

This report is not satisfactory. How and where did the house catch? Where was the lieutenant? Where the guard? What steps were taken to extinguish the fire? Did the lieutenant remain and superintend the putting out of the fire? What is the report of the sentinel? Let a report be sent in as to every particular from each commissioned and non-commissioned officer present.

HENRY A. WISE,

*Brigadier-General.*

[Inclosure No. 3.]

RANTOWLES STATION, *February 17, 1864.*

General BEAUREGARD :

RESPECTED GENERAL : The powder and shells from Battery William Washington, at this place, were removed out of the magazine and placed in my house by Lieutenant Edwards, of Wise's brigade, by order of Lieutenant-Colonel White, some weeks since. I remonstrated, but was told it was a military necessity and must be done.

The premises were blown up last night and not a particle of anything is standing ; the brick foundations and chimneys are blown to the winds.

The premises could have been saved, in all probability, but no one would render any assistance or aid in putting out the fire (caught on the roof), from the powder and shells being in the house.

I endeavored to save the powder and succeeded in removing several boxes. The fire gaining rapidly, I desisted, and when the explosion took place it was fired, as also the outbuildings and portions of the battery.

General, a family of nine persons are wholly dependent on my exertions for a support, and this place is our only maintenance. We are thus thrown upon the world without a dollar ; all is lost. I most respectfully implore some immediate aid to enable me to erect a shelter, if but one room, and I will thank God and my country and its noble general.

With distinguished considerations of esteem, respect, and admiration,

L. J. MESSERRY.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, &C.,  
*February 20, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Wise, for a report of the circumstances attending the destruction of the powder.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure No. 4.]

BATTERY WILLIAM WASHINGTON,  
*Rantowles, S. C., February 19, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. E. B. WHITE :

SIR : I respectfully report that I was standing in the porch, and seeing more smoke than usual looked up and saw that the house was on fire. I then gave the alarm and ran upstairs, and after getting an ax, which I asked one of the men to bring me, I cut a hole through the roof and then saw that the fire had caught in several other places. I used what water we could get but found it impossible to stop the flames. I then ran downstairs and the lieutenant told me I had better save what I had in the house, which I did.

Respectfully,

CHARLES S. GRAVETT,  
*Corporal, Company C, Fifty-ninth Virginia Regiment*



[Inclosure No. 5.]

BATTERY WILLIAM WASHINGTON,  
*Rantowles, S. C., February 19, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. E. B. WHITE :

SIR : In obedience to your order just received, I respectfully report : First, how and where did the house catch fire ? I am not able to say precisely how it caught, but it is very evident that it caught from sparks flying from the chimney. It took fire at the place where shingles of the shed over the porch joined the roof of the house, the porch being two stories high, the shingles on the porch joining the roof of the house.

I was sitting in the room I occupied and a portion of the guard was with me in the room. The corporal first saw the fire ; he being on the side where it first caught, he gave the alarm. Two of the men got the two buckets that we had and Mr. Messerry's little son got the one he had and began to carry the water as fast as they could ; in the mean time the corporal had to get an ax and go upstairs and cut a hole through the roof of the house before they could apply the water. The corporal reports that when he got the hole cut through the roof that the fire was spreading very fast, and had caught in several other places in the roof of the house. About that time Mr. Messerry cried out, " There is no use in trying to save the house." I then told the men to take out what things we had in the house as quick as possible. The sentinel reports that he knew nothing of the fire until the alarm was given, he being on the west side of the house, and the fire caught on the east side. There was a high wind from the west all day ; the shingles were very much decayed and very dry. I remained at the house until I saw that it was impossible to extinguish the flames. I then gathered up my things and went to a safe distance.

Respectfully,

JOHN N. EDWARDS,  
*Lieutenant, Commanding Battery.*

[Inclosure No. 6.]

HDQRS. HEAVY ARTILLERY, SIXTH MIL. DISTRICT,  
*Verdiere, February 19, 1864.*

Capt. J. H. PEARCE,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General :*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of indorsement on reports from myself and Lieutenant Edwards, dated 17th instant, relative to destruction by fire of buildings at Rantowles, and accompanying this is a report from commissioned and non-commissioned officers of the guard present at time of the fire, giving full particulars. I very much regret that I have incurred the disapprobation of my general, and respectfully state that I had the ammunition promptly removed at Battery William Washington in order to facilitate the operations of the engineers in rebuilding the magazine, and that I had it placed in the basement of Mr. Messerry's house because I believed it the safest place that could be obtained without incurring considerable delay. I hope these considerations will induce the general to remit his censure, and not to withdraw from me his confidence as chief of heavy artillery, which position I now have the honor to hold under his command. If these state-

ments are not satisfactory to the general I would thank him to permit me to explain to him in person before he concludes a final judgment.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

E. B. WHITE,

*Lieut. Col., Chief Heavy Arty., Sixth Military District.*

HEADQUARTERS,

*Fort Johnson, February 23, 1864.*

Capt. P. K. MOLONY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: By bearers, Sergt. W. P. Cullum and Corporal Schwartz, Company E, Second South Carolina Artillery, I send you a flag which was taken by them yesterday at a distance of about 2,000 yards beyond and below Battery Simpkins and from within the picket-lines of the enemy. In securing and bringing it off they were compelled to swim a creek.

I would most respectfully suggest that as a means of securing emulation and as a reward for their gallantry and enterprise a short furlough be granted them.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JOSEPH A. YATES,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.*

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. SEVENTH MIL. DIST. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

*February 24, 1864.*

Respectfully forwarded, for information of department headquarters.

The putting up of this flag was telegraphed on the 21st. A reconnaissance made that night indicated that it was intended for an ambuscade. It was erected on a mound thrown up to look like an earth-work in the marsh, and a considerable party of the enemy were discovered concealed near by. The next day the men named within volunteered to go and bring off the flag, which was still flying. As it is not a regular flag, it is not deemed worth while to forward it. I have given ten days' leave to the men.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,

*Brigadier-General.*

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 25, 1864.

Approved, and publish the act to the army.

G. T. B.,

*General, Commanding.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, )

No. 44. (

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ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,

*Richmond, February 23, 1864.*

XIX. The Districts of East and Middle Florida will be united into a district to be known as the District of Florida, and will be

embraced in the command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson is assigned to the command of the District of Florida. He will proceed to that district and report to General Beauregard.

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XXI. Maj. Gen. J. F. Gilmer will proceed without delay to Mobile, Ala., and report to Maj. Gen. D. H. Maury, commanding, for assignment to temporary and special service.

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By command of the Secretary of War :

JNO. WITHERS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C.,  
*February 23, 1864—8.30 a. m.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,  
*Commanding, &c., Savannah, Ga. :*

GENERAL: Allow troops for Florida to proceed thither soon as possible. They may be urgently needed at any moment.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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TALLAHASSEE, *February 23, 1864.*  
(Received 4.50, 24th.)

General S. COOPER :

I am exercising temporarily command of this peninsula. With his own consent I request that Lieut. Col. G. W. Lay, inspector-general of conscription, be ordered to remain with me temporarily to act as inspector-general in the field during emergency. Please telegraph answer.

W. M. GARDNER,  
*Brigadier-General, C. S. Forces of East Florida.*

[Indorsement.]

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION,  
*Richmond, February 27, 1864.*

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lay can be temporarily spared for this purpose if the good of the service requires that he be assigned to such duty and it will be promoted thereby.

Colonel Lay has been ordered to return from his tour of inspection in Georgia and Florida, and is now probably at Macon. His immediate return is not deemed important.

JNO. S. PRESTON,  
*Colonel of Conscription.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 24, 1864.*

Maj. W. H. ECHOLS,  
*Engineer Department :*

MAJOR: I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that during the absence of Brigadier-General Rains the Sub-Marine Corps and its operations have been placed under the charge and



supervision of the engineer department, and that Capt. M. M. Gray, at present in charge of that corps, has been ordered to report to you at once.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,  
*Charleston, S. C., February 24, 1864.*

DR. JOHN R. CHEVES,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 10th instant has been received and answer deferred only from the pressure of the most urgent work, incident to the active operations of the troops now in Florida.

In no way can it be said that you have shown any lack of promptness or efficiency in the investigation into and preparation of incendiary projectiles and composition, but to the contrary, and it gives me pleasure to say that I have ever found you earnest in your efforts to give these headquarters the benefit of your chemical knowledge and habits of industrious research. In no way are you responsible for the want of any definite or decisive results in the shells which have been prepared under your direction. These have been shown to be of the most effective description, in my belief, yet tried, and I have sought to have them used in such way as to establish their efficiency practically. Some experiments were made, which I had duly reported to you, that showed their value, but for the want of combustible material within range of our guns, little was accomplished. Since then I have made several ineffectual efforts to have further experiments made, but the artillery officers have reported obstacles. Recently I directed an experiment to be made at a target on James Island, the result of which has not been communicated.

Until further experiments have been made it will be best to suspend further preparation of these shells. The phosphorus of which you speak it will be best to turn over to the care of Lieutenant Cunningham, to relieve you of its charge, but subject to your future orders; that is, it must not be used except under special instructions, either from these headquarters, the chief of the Ordnance Bureau, or yourself.

If you will render me some statement of the money advances which you have made in connection with these investigations, I will seek to have the matter placed at once in such shape as may cause you to be refunded.

The great trouble has been that we have had no gun in position with range to reach the enemy's shipping in Light-House Inlet or the Stono.

To relieve you also of all further occasion of having to be subjected to expenses it will be best for you to have all work done hereafter in the preparation of these shells under Lieutenant Cunningham, and I accept your tender of your assistance to that officer as another evidence of your cheerful, sincere desire to render all possible assistance.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

FEBRUARY 25, 1864.

Brig.-Gen. N. G. EVANS,

*Corner of Cannon and Rutledge Streets, Charleston, S. C. :*

GENERAL: Your application of the 24th instant to be replaced in command of your brigade is received. It is expected that the regiments composing that brigade will be ordered shortly to another department, in which event I shall not oppose your resumption of command, though I am satisfied the good of the service would be advanced by your exchange to some other brigade. Should, however, circumstances compel its retention in this department in obedience to instructions from the War Department, a board of general officers will be ordered to determine whether the good of the service in this military department admits of your being restored to the command of that brigade.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., February 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD,

*Royall's, James Island, S. C. :*

Order one company South Carolina Siege Train (the one with the two 30-pounder Parrott guns), with ample ammunition, five days' rations, and their transportation, to repair at once to Lake City, Fla., and report to the officer commanding at that point.

By command General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

FEBRUARY 26, 1864.

General MERCER:

GENERAL: In connection with the recent attack of the enemy on Whitmarsh Island, I am instructed to convey to you the following suggestions:

The garrison on that island should be permanent and made fully acquainted with its topography, and a portion should consist of a company of cavalry, whose rapid movements might, in a measure, counterbalance the very small force that can be spared for its defense. It is also deemed advisable to have a high lookout erected, but concealed as far as practicable from the enemy's observation, and from which a strict watch may be kept on the movements of the enemy from the direction of Wilmington Narrows and Savannah River. At the same time it will be well to adopt some means to insure the rapid conveyance of intelligence to the various picket-posts. It is thought that a shorter road should be constructed between Fort Bartow and Thunderbolt Battery.

The commanding general is informed that the garrison on Whitmarsh Island was surprised in the recent affair with the enemy; that a company of the Fifty-seventh Georgia Regiment, on picket at Gibbons, showed a want of soldierly conduct and retreated in spite of their captain's commands and efforts. You will please have a strict examination and report made of the facts and forwarded to these headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. JORDAN.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Send to Florida that company of the Siege Train that has the two rifled guns complete.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

If the two regiments lately sent you (the Twenty-sixth Virginia and the Holcombe Legion), are not absolutely needed by you, order them to proceed at once to Lake City, Fla., and report to Brigadier-General Taliaferro.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

Send the Twenty-sixth Virginia Volunteers to Florida. Hold the Holcombe Legion until further orders. Use the special train if needed.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. MERCER,  
*Savannah, Ga. :*

The Twenty-sixth Virginia Volunteers must go to Florida as ordered.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. PATTON ANDERSON,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

Assume command of the forces in Florida. Troops en route will form another brigade, which, with Finegan's, will give a division to General Gardner, if he feels able to take the field. I expect to be with you soon.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*



CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. PATTON ANDERSON,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

When troops reach you, commanding general desires Second Brigade, Gardner's division, to consist of Twenty-sixth and Fifty-ninth Virginia Regiments and Holcombe Legion, for the present. Have no good ordnance officer to send you. Hope you may find efficient one with your command.

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 26, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. M. GARDNER,  
*Lake City, Fla. :*

I announce that the War Department has sent to command the troops in Florida Maj. Gen. J. Patton Anderson, and transfer the command to him. He will assign you a division.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

FEBRUARY 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD,  
*Commanding, &c., James Island.*

GENERAL: I am instructed to transmit the accompanying "proclamation,"\* said to have been received by one of our pickets from a picket of the enemy.

From Captain Bryan's remarks (see inside), it would appear that communication of this kind is frequently carried on by the pickets on both sides. This is deemed objectionable, and it is the wish of the commanding general that proper steps shall be taken to prevent its recurrence.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KEARNY.

HDQRS. DIST. OF GA. AND THIRD DIST. OF S. C.,  
*Savannah, February 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to state for the information of the commanding general that, in obedience to dispatch received, the Twenty-sixth Virginia Regiment will start for Florida to-day. I would most respectfully represent that this city is now left without any adequate means of defense, and is entirely unable with our present force to resist a serious attack. The heavy withdrawal of troops to Florida leaves me only four regiments, two battalions, two batteries, and several companies for the defense of this city; as nearly all these troops are stationed at fixed batteries from which they cannot be withdrawn with safety, the commanding general

\* Not found; but supposed to be the amnesty proclamation of the President of the United States of December 8, 1863.

will perceive how helpless I am. Upon the recent advance of the enemy on Whitemarsh Island, it was with extreme difficulty that one-fifth of the attacking force could be collected for opposition. I feel it proper to state the true condition of affairs, that the commanding general may act advisedly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. MERCER.

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

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SAVANNAH, GA., *February 27, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. A. ROMAN :

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following reflections on the defense of East Florida :

The principal problem is to cover with a small force the large area of country between the Saint Mary's and Saint John's Rivers on the east and the Gulf coast on the west. Fortification is nearly impracticable on the water approaches, from our scarcity of guns and from the lack of sufficient infantry to support a battery if erected. Fortification is only useful in the interior as a very temporary check to the enemy's advance, the natural obstacles being of short extent and readily flanked by detour.

The enemy may land at will under the protection of their gun-boats, and their progress for a short distance into the interior cannot be materially checked by the necessarily weak coast guard which would oppose them. The contest with an invading force must therefore be carried on in the open woods and fields where the only advantage of position which could probably be gained by either side would be to have one flank covered by a pond or swamp.

The initiative being with the invader he concentrates upon the point chosen by him, and if provided with transportation his advance is irresistible until an adequate force can be gathered to attack him. Our only practicable preparation, therefore, must be in providing facilities for concentrating our troops in his front, taking away or destroying whatever might assist his advance, and having a force on the frontier which would at least worry him on every occasion as soon as the advance began.

There is only one way possible of concentrating troops rapidly in East Florida from the points available, namely, by railroad ; therefore to make a continuous line of railroad from East Florida to the points whence re-enforcements may be drawn is the most important step which can be taken to defend that country.

The coast being barren and thinly settled there is little which can be moved or destroyed there except the line of railroad. This would unquestionably be used by the enemy as a base of supply, and to take away the railroad for at least 20 miles from the coast would materially delay the enemy's advance in force into the interior.

To check and harass the enemy's approach from the Atlantic side, a regiment of mounted rifles should be scattered along the coast from the Satilla River in Georgia to Black Creek in Florida, under a bold and vigilant officer, and with the means of crossing the Saint Mary's River by a pontoon bridge, with têtes-de-pont and a small battery to prevent the ascent of gun-boats. There should also be the means of assembling this regiment by telegraph, keeping one-half in front and the other half at the most practicable central point in reserve.

If those portions of railroad near the coast are removed, the enemy will be much less likely to attempt invasion, as one of their chief objects must be to possess themselves of an easy railroad communication between the Gulf and the Atlantic.

The removal and construction of these railroad lines might be effected through the engineer department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,  
*Major and Assistant Inspector General.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD.  
*Camp Milton, Fla., March 10, 1864.*

The views herein expressed meet with my entire approval.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 27, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. P. ANDERSON,  
*Lake City, Fla.:*

If enemy has retired within his trenches at Jacksonville, or on board his transports, Clinch's cavalry will be sent at once to guard communications from attack by way of Satilla and Saint Mary's.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
*General, Commanding.*

FORT SUMTER, *February 29, 1864.*

Maj. WILLIAM H. ECHOLS,  
*Chief Engineer:*

H. C. Keltner has never reported. I think he must be with brigade in Florida. G. W. Keltner cannot be spared. Our South Carolina regiments have been so cut up by details that I think we should hold on to these Georgians, when they want to stay with us.

JNO. JOHNSON,  
*Captain, Engineer.*



# ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

## ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.\*

- 
- Abbott's (Joseph C.) Infantry. See *New Hampshire Troops, 7th Regiment.*
- Abell's (Henry F.) Artillery. See *Milton Artillery, post, Battery B.*
- Able's (T. N.) Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 22d Regiment.*
- Abraham's (Isaac M.) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 85th Regiment.*
- Alden's (Alonzo) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 169th Regiment.*
- Allen's (J. V. H.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 63d Regiment.*
- Allston's (J. B.) Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment.*
- Amos' (W. B.) Cavalry. See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 15th Regiment.*
- Anderson's (Edward C., jr.) Cavalry. See *Georgia Troops, 24th Battalion.*
- Anderson's (Robert H.) Cavalry. See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
- Bachman's (William K.) Artillery. See *German Artillery, post.*
- Bacon's (E. H., jr.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 32d Regiment.*
- Bailey's (James E.) Heavy Artillery. See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment, Batteries F, G, K, and L.*
- Bailey's (Romanzo C.) Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 8th Regiment.*
- Bannatyne's (Robert W.) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 52d Regiment.*
- Barkuloo's (William) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 57th Regiment.*
- Barney's (Albert M.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
- Barton's (William B.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 48th Regiment.*
- Basinger's (William S.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 18th Battalion.*
- Bateman's (J. M.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
- Bates' (Mortimer) Artillery. See *Milton Artillery, post, Battery A.*
- Bayley's (Thomas) Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 9th Regiment.*
- Beals' (Joseph A.) Heavy Artillery. See *Georgia Troops, 22d Battalion, Battery C.*
- Beaufort Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
- Beecher's (James C.) Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 35th Regiment.*
- Bell's (Louis) Infantry. See *New Hampshire Troops, 4th Regiment.*
- Benbow's (H. L.) Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 23d Regiment.*
- Bennett's (Augustus G.) Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 21st Regiment.*
- Billopp's (W. W.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 29th Regiment.*
- Bird's (P. B.) Infantry. See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 6th Battalion.*
- Blake's (Francis D.) Heavy Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
- Blanding's (Ormsby) Heavy Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*
- Blocker's (Haley T.) Cavalry. See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
- Boag's (Theodore G.) Artillery. See *Gist Guard Artillery, post.*
- Bomar's (Thomas H.) Artillery. See *Chestatee Artillery, post.*
- Bonaud's (A.) Heavy Artillery. See *Georgia Troops, 28th Battalion.*
- Boykin's (Edward M.) Cavalry. See *South Carolina Troops.*
- Brevard's (Theodore W.) Infantry. See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion.*
- Bridges' (William M.) Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops.*

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\* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

- Brooks' (John W.) Artillery.** See *Terrell Artillery, post.*
- Brown's (George) Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment.*
- Brown's (N. A.) Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 4th Regiment (Clinch's).*
- Brown's (Philip P., jr.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 157th Regiment.*
- Browning's (F. J.) Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 29th Battalion.*
- Buist's (George L.) Heavy Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 12th Battalion.*
- Buist's (Henry) Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment.*
- Bureau Battalion.** See *Confederate Troops.*
- Burgess' (Joseph C.) Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 25th Regiment.*
- Burr's (Philo M.) Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 52d Regiment.*
- Burton's (John C.) Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 13th Regiment.*
- Butler's (Lewis) Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 67th Regiment.*
- Butler's (William) Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Cadets Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
- Calhoun's (J. A.) Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 23d Regiment.*
- Campbell's (Charles G.) Siege Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Campbell's (John C.) Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 76th Regiment.*
- Campbell's (William H.) Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, post.*
- Cannon's (H. A.) Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 1st Regiment, Regulars.*
- Carson's (James M.) Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 25th Regiment.*
- Chaddock's (William H.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 112th Regiment.*
- Charles' (William E.) Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery D.*
- Chatham Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Chatham's (Walter S.) Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 52d Regiment.*
- Chestatee Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Chichester's (Charles E.) Artillery.** See *Gist Guard Artillery, post.*
- China's (Thomas J.) Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 25th Regiment.*
- Churchill's (David B.) Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Clark's (Tillman H.) Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*
- Clarke's (M. J.) Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion.*
- Clinch's (Duncan L.) Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 4th Regiment.*
- Clinch's (N. B.) Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Coan's (William B.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 48th Regiment.*
- Cobb Guards, Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Colcock's (Charles J.) Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Colcock's (R. H.) Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 4th Regiment.*
- Colhoun's (E. B.) Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 15th Battalion, Battery A.*
- Colwell's (Augustus W.) Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Cone's (W. H.) Cavalry.** See *Florida Troops, Confederate.*
- Cooper's (R. L.) Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
- Cooper's (W. R.) Artillery.** See *Santee Artillery, post.*
- Corps d'Afrique, Fourteenth Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 86th Regiment.*
- Crane's (Henry A.) Cavalry.** See *Florida Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
- Crawford's Infantry.** (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Crawford.*
- Crawley's (W. J.) Infantry.** See *Holcombe Legion, post.*
- Daggett's (Rufus) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 117th Regiment.*
- Daniell's (Charles) Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Davis' (Zimmerman) Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
- Day's (Samuel C.) Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery F.*
- Dean's (Edward J.) Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 22d Regiment.*
- De Lorme's (T. M.) Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
- De Pass' (W. L.) Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery G.*

- De Saussure's (Henry W.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery I*.
- Dickison's (J. J.) **Cavalry**. See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment*.
- Dickson's (B. F.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment*.
- Dozier's (William G.) **Battalion**. See *Naval Battalion, post*.
- Duke's (Richard T. W.) **Infantry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 46th Regiment*.
- Dunham's (Joseph L.) **Artillery**. See *Milton Artillery, post, Battery A*.
- Dunovant's (John) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment*.
- Earle's (William E.) **Artillery**. See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery A*.
- Echols **Artillery**. See *Georgia Troops*.
- Echols' (William H.) **Battalion**.\* See *Bureau Battalion, ante*.
- Edwards' (A. C.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 47th Regiment*.
- Edwards' (George) **Engineers**. See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment*.
- Eichelberger's (Jacob C.) **Infantry**. See *Florida Troops, Confederate*.
- Einsiedel's (Detleo von) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 41st Regiment*.
- Elder's (Samuel S.) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery B*.
- Ely's (Andrew F.) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Colored, 8th Regiment*.
- Emery's (Sabine) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 9th Regiment*.
- Enfans Perdus **Infantry**. See *New York Troops*.
- England's (Theophilus L.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 89th Regiment*.
- Evans' (John W.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 64th Regiment*.
- Farr's (Norman P.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 52d Regiment*.
- Fellows' (Stark) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment*.
- Fire **Battalion**. See *South Carolina Troops*.
- Fish's (John B.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 52d Regiment*.
- Fleming's (David G.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment*.
- Florida **Light Artillery**. See *Leon Artillery, post*.
- Floyd's (Eldridge G.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment*.
- Floyd's (Gabriel J.) **Infantry**. See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 4th Battalion*.
- Fort's (William) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment, State*.
- Fowler's (J. W.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 8th Regiment, State Guard*.
- Frederick's (A. D.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment*.
- Fribley's (Charles W.) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Colored, 8th Regiment*.
- Gaillard's (Alfred S.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery K*.
- Gaillard's (Christopher) **Artillery**. See *Santee Artillery, post*.
- Gaillard's (P. C.) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment*.
- Gamble's (E. W.) **Artillery**. See *Leon Artillery, post*.
- Gamble's (Robert H.) **Artillery**. See *Leon Artillery, post*.
- Gantt's (F. Hay) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 11th Regiment*.
- German **Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops*.
- Gibbs' (John S.) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery D*.
- Gibson's (J. G.) **Artillery**. See *Echols Artillery, ante*.
- Gignilliat's (William Robert) **Artillery**. See *John M. Guerard's Artillery, post*.
- Gist **Guard Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops*.
- Goldsby's (Thomas J.) **Infantry**. See *Alabama Troops*.
- Goode's (John Thomas) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment*.
- Gordon's (George A.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 63d Regiment*.
- Grace's (Thomas A.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 27th Regiment*.
- Graham's (Robert F.) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 21st Regiment*.
- Graybill's (Tully) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 28th Regiment*.
- Guerard's (John M.) **Artillery**. See *Georgia Troops*.
- Gunter's (Elbert) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 20th Regiment*.
- Gurney's (William) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 127th Regiment*.

\*Temporarily commanding.



- Guss'** (Henry R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops*, 97th Regiment.
- Gwynn's** (D. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Florida Troops*, Confederate, 2d Regiment.
- Hallowell's** (Edward N.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops*, 54th Regiment (Colored).
- Halsey's** (M. P.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops*, 2d Regiment, Battery A.
- Haltiwanger's** (G. T.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops*, 20th Regiment.
- Hamilton's** (John) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops*, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Battery E.
- Hammond's** (Samuel Le Roy) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops*, 25th Regiment.
- Hamner's** (William H.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops*, 3d Regiment, Battery A.
- Hanleiter's** (Cornelius R.) **Artillery.** See *Jo. Thompson Artillery*, post.
- Hanvey's** (George M.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops*, 12th Battalion.
- Hardwick Mounted Rifles, Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops*.
- Harris'** (Andrew L.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops*, 75th Regiment.
- Harris'** (John L.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops*, 4th Regiment (Clinch's).
- Harrison's** (George P., jr.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops*, 32d Regiment.
- Harrison's** (Randolph) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops*, Confederate, 4th Regiment.
- Hart's** (Thompson D.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops*, 104th Regiment.
- Hartridge's** (Alfred L.) **Infantry.\*** See *Georgia Troops*, 54th Regiment; also *Florida Troops*, Confederate, 4th Battalion.
- Hartung's** (Adolph von) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops*, 74th Regiment.
- Hartwell's** (Alfred S.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops*, 55th Regiment (Colored).
- Hawley's** (Joseph R.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops*, 7th Regiment.
- Hayne's** (Theodore B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops*, 15th Battalion, Battery C.
- Henry's** (Guy V.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops*, 40th Regiment.
- Higginson's** (Thomas W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops*, Colored, 33d Regiment.
- Hill's** (A. A. F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops*, 1st Regiment, Regulars.
- Hodges'** (W. L.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops*, 1st Regiment, State.
- Hodgson's** (Joseph) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops*, 7th Regiment.
- Holcombe Legion.** See *South Carolina Troops*.
- Holland's** (W. T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops*, 32d Regiment.
- Hollingsworth's** (William V.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops*, 52d Regiment.
- Hood's** (Arthur) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops*, 29th Battalion.
- Hooper's** (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops*, 24th Regiment.
- Hopkins'** (C. F.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops*, Confederate, 1st Special Battalion.
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